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Japan

Bush, Kaifu Said in Agreement on Soviet Aid

OW1207153391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1455 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 12 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's talks with U.S. President George Bush showed that Tokyo and Washington are in complete agreement with regard to financial assistance to the Soviet Union, Vice Finance Minister Hiroshi Yasuda told reporters Friday evening. Kaifu and Bush held talks Thursday at Bush's vacation house in Kennebunkport, Maine.

Yasuda said he believed the two leaders deepened mutual understanding on the issues of financial support to the Soviet Union and Japan's assistance to the multinational forces in the Persian Gulf war. "I think the talks between Bush and Kaifu were, for the most part, fruitful," he said.

Yasuda's remarks seemed to suggest that Tokyo was able to avoid isolating itself on the issue of financial aid to Moscow, a situation it had feared.

In connection with the offer of special associate membership status to Moscow in the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Yasuda said he felt "official membership for the Soviet Union is still premature."

A senior Foreign Ministry official said the agreement between Bush and Kaifu on not providing massive financial assistance to the Kremlin means that the objective of the pre-summit meeting had been met.

A high-ranking Finance Ministry official said that some progress might be made at a planned working-level meeting over a meal between a senior Soviet finance official and his Western counterparts, which will be held in parallel with the talks between the summit leaders and President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Japanese Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, who had originally planned to stay in London until next Wednesday, has extended his visit for an extra day until Thursday noon to attend the meeting with the Soviet financial official, according to ministry sources. The Finance Ministry official said the meeting's content is still undecided because it is not known which Soviet finance official will attend.

Official Reports Kaifu Talks With UK's Major

OW1407153591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1510 GMT 14 Jul 91

[By Narito Ohta]

[Text] London, July 14 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and British Prime Minister John Major Sunday agreed their countries are not ready to offer massive financial aid to the Soviet Union unless it moves strongly toward a market economy and democracy, a senior Japanese official said.

Both leaders were skeptical about Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's plan to save the floundering Soviet economy from collapse, the official said.

The two prime ministers' responses to the plan were "surprisingly similar," said the official, who asked anomynity.

The official said most of the two-hour luncheon meeting was devoted to assessing the Soviet plan, presented to the leaders of the seven richest nations before their annual economic summit, which begins Monday. He refused to disclose further details.

The Japan-Britain pre-summit meeting was held at Major's 10 Downing Street residence and office.

On bilateral issues, Kaifu and Major agreed the Japan-Britain relationship is "in extremely good shape," due mainly to Britain's brisk exports to Japan in recent years, the official said.

They also confirmed the need to succesfully conclude the stalled free trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) by the end of this year.

Kaifu said the summit leaders should give a "political and personal push" to progress in the Uruguay round of the trade talks, the offical said.

Kaifu sought Major's support for Japan's stand on food security—the idea that for security reasons a nation should be self- sufficient in its staple food.

Major, however, gave no clear respose to the Japanese request.

The prime ministers' meeting was attended by Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and British Foreign Minister Douglas Hurd.

The official said Kaifu officially invited Major to visit Japan. Major accepted the invitation, saying he wanted to make the visit as early as possible, the official said.

It was Kaifu's first meeting with Major, who took office last November.

Officials Disappointed by Soviet Reform Plan

OW1507113091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1103 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 15 KYODO—Japanese Government officials voiced deep disappointment at a new Soviet economic reform plan Monday, saying it is insufficient to draw massive Western financial support.

The new plan, outlined in a letter sent by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to leaders of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations meeting in London for their annual economic summit, calls for a gradual transition to a market economy with assistance from Western nations.

"It steps back far away from a radical reform plan drawn up by former Russian Republic Vice Prime Minister Grigoriy Yavlinskiy and some others and contains conservative aspects," said an official at the Economic Planning Agency.

"That won't provide an incentive to prompt (Western) financial support," the official said anonymously.

In particular, the official cited a mixed economy envisaged under the new reform plan allowing coexistence of government-controlled and private sectors, in preparation for moving to a market economy, as featuring central command economic features.

The United States will be opposed to financial support to the Soviet Union under the new plan, as Washington is against a big injection of cash to rescue the ailing Soviet economy before it sees communist central planning dismantled, he said.

The official added it seems that even France and Italy, two G-7 nations in favor of financial support to Moscow, are annoyed at the new reform plan.

In his plan, Gorbachev also seeks full membership in the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank and a rescheduling of the Soviet Union's 65 billion dollar external debts.

"It is too early to give such membership to the Soviets now that Soviet economic figures lack credibility," said a senior official at the Finance Ministry.

Referring to the request for debt rescheduling, the Economic Planning Agency official said it provides evidence of "how difficult it is for the Soviet Government to raise funds."

Gorbachev will formally outline his new reform plan to the G-7 leaders after they close their meeting Wednesday.

MITI Minister Leaves for London Summit

OW1307051991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0444 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 13 KYODO—Minister of International Trade and Industry Eiichi Nakao left Tokyo for London on Saturday to attend the summit of seven Western industrialized nations opening Monday.

After the three-day summit, Nakao will proceed to Ireland for talks with Irish Prime Minister Charles Haughey.

Nakao is scheduled to return to Tokyo on July 20.

USSR Government Seeks Help in Gas-Oil Project

OW1207141091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1327 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 12 KYODO—The Soviet Government is asking for Japanese participation in a 20-year national project for development of mineral resources in the Soviet Far East, Japanese industry sources said Friday.

The so-called Vostok Plan calls for investing 3.8 trillion yen over 20 years to exploit natural gas and oil resources in the Yakutsk area in Siberia and in Sakhalin, the sources said. It is one of the largest projects of its kind in Soviet history.

The sources said the Soviet Fuels and Energy Bureau worked out the project with authorities in the Russian Republic and in Sakhalin region in the Soviet Far East.

They said the Soviet Government plans to depend on foreign capital for one-third of the project cost and to ask the United States and South Korea, in addition to Japan, for investment.

The sources said the project calls for exploitation of three natural gas and oil resources in Sakhalin in the first stage, and three major natural gas fields in Yakutsk, with estimated total deposits of over 1 trillion cubic meters, in the second stage.

The project includes laying a 3,200-kilometer natural gas pipeline from Sakhalin to Seoul via the Soviet Far East and North Korea by 1995, and a 3,600-kilometer one from Yakutsk to Khabarovsk in the Soviet Far East by 2000.

The project also calls for providing 23 billion cubic meters of natural gas a year for Soviet consumption, 2 billion cubic meters to North Korea, and 9 billion cubic meters each to Japan and South Korea, all by 2005.

The sources said the Soviet authorities are considering providing natural gas to Japan through an undersea pipeline to be laid between South Korea and Kyushu and in a liquefied form from Sakhalin.

The Soviet Government is expected to invite bids from foreign companies wishing to take part in the project.

Toyama, Vladivostok Airports Enter Agreement

OW1407123791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1129 GMT 14 Jul 91

[Text] Toyama, July 14 KYODO—Japan's Toyama Airport and Vladivostok Airport in the Soviet Far East will increase cooperation and exchange of information under an agreement signed in Vladivostok Sunday.

Vladivostok Airport has been closed to foreign traffic because of its strategic importance to the Soviet Union, and this is the first time its administrators have entered a cooperation agreement with a foreign airport.

The agreement was signed after an observer group of Toyama officials and business leaders arrived in Vladivostok Thursday on an All Nippon Airways charter flight from Toyama Prefecture.

Toyama Prefecture is actively seeking to expand links with areas along the Soviet Union's northeast seaboard.

In May, a group from Toyama Prefecture visited Vladivostok and agreed with the city's authorities to sign governmental and friendship agreements with Soviet governments in the area within a year.

They also agreed to work toward establishing regular scheduled flights between Toyama and Vladivostok airports, which now are not permitted.

The airport cooperation agreement allows for the exchange of information on the maintenance of facilities and airport management.

Electric Company To Train Soviet Engineers

OW1507113391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1023 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 15 KYODO—Tokyo Electric Power Co. said Monday it has agreed to provide training for Soviet atomic power engineers in Japan to help ensure safety at atomic power plants in the Soviet Union.

Under the agreement, the first group of about seven engineers from an atomic power plant in the Lithuanian Republic will arrive in Japan on September 9 to undergo a one-week training at the company's atomic power facility in Fukushima Prefecture, the company said.

The company said its engineers are scheduled to visit Lithuania during the current fiscal year ending next March.

The agreement stemmed from a proposal by the Moscow center of the World Association of Nuclear Operators, which was inaugurated following a disastrous accident at the Chernobyl atomic power plant in the Soviet Union in 1986.

Atomic power facilities produced 212.6 billion kilowatts/hour of electricity in the Soviet Union in 1989, accounting for 12.5 percent of the country's total power output.

Home Affairs Minister Leaves for China

OW1407053191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0451 GMT 14 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—Home Affairs Minister Akira Fukida left here for China on Sunday morning on a four-day visit for talks on youth exchange programs between Japan and China.

Fukida will discuss with Chinese officials a program inviting Chinese youths to Japan to teach the Chinese language at Japanese schools, and other exchange programs.

He will also meet Chinese Premier Li Peng on Tuesday, Japanese officials said.

Daily Remarks on U.S. Major General's Remarks

OW1407061991 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 14 Jul 91 Morning Edition p 3—FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[By So Yagi, reporter of the Politico-Economic Desk]

[Text] Major General Henry C. Stackpole's remarks asserting that "bases have contributed to prosperity" [of Okinawa] are creating ripples. General Stackpole, formerly commanding general of the Third Marine Expeditionary Force and the Okinawa area coordinator, said that "the prosperity of Okinawa is a result of the stationing of the U.S. Armed Forces for the past 45 years."

Governor Ota has argued against this assertion, and prefectural chapters of Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ] and Japan Communist Party [JCP] have reacted to them, saying these remarks are a "revelation of the occupation consciousness." Defense Agency Director General Ikeda has issued a comment on the general's remarks as well. Ripples are spreading to various corners. The general's remarks also contain what can be interpreted as a criticism of the prefectural government. It can be said that the general, who has been considered doveish, has decided to put over the logic of a soldier before leaving his post.

Major General Stackpole's remarks at issue were carried in the 5 July edition of the English-language daily STARS AND STRIPES. In an interview with the newspaper, the general commented on the fact that Governor Ota and protest groups have called for the withdrawal of the U.S. bases, and said: "I cannot agree. I respect the governor's views. But the governor is not speaking about the positive side to the existence of the U.S. forces." He dwelt on his theory on the bases having contributed to prosperity of Okinawa, saying: "The prosperity of Okinawa we can now see with our eyes is the direct result of the services of the soldiers in the past 45 years."

He also criticized the prefectural government, saying: "The return of the bases is becoming more difficult than before by the present prefectural government's policy."

Governor Ota has expressed displeasure at this assertion that the bases have contributed to prosperity. He retorted, saying that is "a unilateral view of Major General Stackpole," and adding: "Where financial assistance to Okinawa is concerned, the Japanese Government began to make more contributions than the U.S. Government did—even before Okinawa reverted to Japan. Besides, everybody recognizes that the existence of the bases is an element impeding the promotion and development of Okinawan industry."

He further insisted: "It is probable that the general, though said to be a dove, had no choice but to express such views as a soldier. But, as far as I am concerned, the return of all the bases is an ideal and a pillar of policy."

SDPJ Okinawa Prefectural Headquarters and the JCP Prefectural Council also strongly reacted to the general's remarks, and immediately filed protests with the U.S. Consulate General in Okinawa. Their protests were severe in tone: "They reveal the true character of the Armed Forces and the true nature of aggressors. He is treating the residents as if he were ruling them while in occupation. He lacks understanding of the situation." The protests also said: "This is an interference in the prefectural government." "He is drawing a false picture of the historical facts of Okinawa, and this can never be permitted."

The Consulate General has declined to comment, but could not hide its shock about the big ripples the remarks have caused. It said: "This is a high-level question. We would like to make an appropriate response after making a report on this to the embassy in Tokyo."

While his own remarks are making reverbrations, Major General Stackpole went to see Governor Ota to make his farewell after a change-of-command ceremony on 10 July, and on this occasion, he made another "request" of the Ota Prefectural Government.

In his farewell remarks in Japanese, he said: "It is true that there remain unresolved issues. Questions like the one on the use of land cannot be resolved overnight. While there can be differing views on the solution, I do not believe that our objectives should necessarily be incompatible with the objectives of the prefectural government. I think the return of land is possible if the treaty requirements are followed and the needs for safe and effective training for ourselves are recognized. I shall make efforts in that respect while back in Washington."

It may be said that the remarks were meant to call on the prefectural government to make concessions. In other words, his remarks were along the same lines as those given in the interview with the English-language newspaper.

Major General Stackpole created a stir with another remark last year, when he spoke in an interview with THE WASHINGTON POST. It was what came to be known as the "top of a bottle" remark. He said the U.S. forces in Japan must continue to be stationed for 10 more years in order to prevent Japan from rearming itself." It may be the logic of a soldier who wants to emphasize the importance of the troops' existence now that troop reduction plans are being discussed. But, the reactions of the prefectural people against this series of remarks by the general are never small.

Tokyo Urges Peru To Ensure Safety of Japanese

OW1307130791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1010 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 13 KYODO—Japan has asked Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori to ensure the safety of Japanese nationals in the country in the wake of a guerrilla attack that killed three Japanese engineers, Foreign Ministry officials said Saturday.

The Foreign Ministry made the request to Fujimori through the Japanese Embassy in Lima on Friday, the officials said.

Some 20 Shining Path guerrillas killed the three Japanese engineers in a raid Friday on an agricultural center where they worked in Huaral, central Peru, according to local police.

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the ministry's foreign assistance arm, had dispatched the men to the Japanese- financed technical center of vegetable cultivation.

The Maoist guerrilla group reportedly accused the center of providing agricultural advice for the sake of Japan, not Peru.

The ministry officials said 450 Japanese live in Peru, some 150 of whom are engineers and their family members.

The Japanese Embassy in Lima on Friday instructed some 150 Japanese members of the JICA and Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers in Peru to stay at home for the time being unless they have urgent business, officials said.

JICA officials said Saturday that 63 JICA engineers and volunteer experts working outside Lima will be called into the Peruvian capital for their safety.

Meanwhile, a school for Japanese nationals in Lima will be closed temporarily Monday to ensure the safety of the staff members and 79 students, school officials said.

Last November, a former left-wing activist from Japan was killed by guerrillas in the Peruvian jungle about 300 kilometers northeast of Lima.

The guerrillas claimed responsibility for that attack, saying they killed the man because he was Japanese like Peruvian President Fujimori, who is a Japanese-Peruvian.

During the past two weeks, there have been bomb blasts at three Japanese car dealers in Lima.

On July 1, guerrillas also attacked a Canadian-financed textile institute in a mountainous area about 950 kilometers south of Lima, killing two Peruvian engineers.

The Shining Path guerrillas have been blamed for thousands of deaths since they launched their armed struggle against the government in 1980.

Envoy Apologizes for Deaths

OW1507050891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0409 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 15 KYODO—Peruvian Ambassador to Japan Victor Aritomi Shinto on Monday offered an apology for the murder of three Japanese agricultural engineers in Peru, Foreign Ministry officials said.

The ambassador made the apology to Hirohito Seki, head of the Foreign Ministry's Latin American and Caribbean Bureau, and promised to guard the safety of Japanese residing in Peru, the officials said.

Seki said he is very worried about the situation and urged assured safety for Japanese to continue promotion of cooperation with Peru.

Early Friday morning, Peruvian Maoist guerrillas killed three Japanese agricultural experts on the outskirts of Lima.

The Shining Path antigovernment rebels also dynamited the interior of the Technical Center of Vegetable Cultivation, a Japan- Peru joint venture for which the victims worked.

Police are still searching for the masked attackers.

Aid Workers To Stay in Peru

OW1507092291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0826 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 15 KYODO—Japan's top government spokesman said Monday the government does not plan the immediate withdrawal of Japanese aid workers from Peru despite Friday's Peruvian terrorist attack on a Japanese aid office that left three Japanese engineers dead.

While condemning the ultraleftist guerrilla attack, Misoji Sakamoto said in a prepared statement, "We hope that this unhappy incident will not disturb friendly ties between Japan and Peru."

He said, however, the Foreign Ministry is dispatching officials to discuss the future of economic cooperation and how to secure the safety of Japanese nationals.

The "Shining Path" guerrillas said they shot dead three Japanese aid officials working at an agricultural center financed by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) because the center was serving Japan's "imperialistic" aspirations.

JICA was planning to call 63 experts working outside the capital to return to Lima. There are 450 Japanese living in Peru, including 150 aid workers.

Sakamoto said the Peruvian Government should take primary responsibility for protecting other Japanese from terrorism.

"We have no intention to withdraw the workers at this time," he said at a regularly scheduled news conference. But he added if it is not possible to ensure their safety, other measures may be considered.

The Maoist Shining Path guerrillas, in a campaign of terror, have killed six foreign aid workers in the past two months.

Some 23,000 people have been killed in political violence in the South American country since the mid-1980s.

Kanemaru To Call Off Taiwanese President's Visit

OW1307090991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0826 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 13 KYODO—Former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru and Taiwanese representative in Tokyo Hsu Shui-te agreed Saturday to call off a plan to have Taiwan's President Li Teng-hui visit Japan.

According to Kanemaru's aides, the agreement was reached when Kanemaru and Hsu, representative of the Association of East Asian Relations, Taipei's de facto embassy in Tokyo, discussed the matter at the residence of the former deputy prime minister.

Kanemaru and Hsu shared the view that they did not mean to create anything controversial by having the Taiwanese president visit Japan, the aides told reporters.

The former deputy prime minister told the Taiwanese official, however, he did not want any damage caused to Sino-Japan relations by pushing the plan for Li's visit to Japan, the aides said.

Li's visit to Japan was first discussed when Kanemaru visited Taipei in June.

A spokesman for the Chinese Embassy in Japan said earlier in the week a visit by Li would not only violate the Sino-Japanese joint declaration but also damage bilateral relations.

He said an invitation to the Taiwanese president would mean that Tokyo has virtually approved a policy of "two Chinas" or "one China, one Taiwan."

In late June, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen also expressed displeasure over the issue when he visited Japan, saying he hopes Tokyo will deal with it prudently.

Shinji Sato, a member of the House of Representatives and head of a Japanese Diet members' group for friendship with Taiwan, on Thursday criticized Taiwan for ignoring the group when planning Li's visit to Japan.

Sato, son of former Prime Minister Eisaku Sato, said the group had repeatedly told Taiwan that a visit by Li would be difficult.

A top Foreign Ministry official suggested on Wednesday it would be difficult to host a visit by Li, citing the Japan-China joint declaration which states that there is only "one China."

Kanemaru Denies Invitation

OW1307142091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1356 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 13 KYODO—Powerful conservative politician Shin Kanemaru on Saturday denied inviting Taiwanese President Li Teng-hui to Japan.

But Kanemaru confirmed press reports that Taiwan had asked him if Tokyo would welcome a visit by Li.

Kanemaru, one of the most influential power brokers within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), also denied reports that he had urged Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and the Foreign Ministry to accept a visit by the Taiwanese leader.

"It is not true that I invited President Li or that I pressured the prime minister's office and the Foreign Ministry to accept the visit," Kanemaru told reporters.

The allegation that he made such an invitation has "caused me a lot of annoyance. Someone is trying to give me trouble," he said.

Kanemaru, known as one of the most pro-Taiwanese leaders of the LDP, met with Taiwanese leaders during a visit to Taipei in mid- June.

Japanese mass media have reported that Kanemaru asked Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen not to raise objections to a visit by the Taiwanese president. Qian, who visited Tokyo in late June, reportedly warned that such visit might undermine Sino-Japanese relations.

LDP sources quoted Qian as telling Kanemaru that Japan's acceptance of a Li visit would be tantamount to recognizing the Taiwanese Government.

Beijing regards Taiwan as part of China, while the Taipei Government claims that it represents all of China.

Taiwan severed ties with Japan immediately after Tokyo and Beijing established diplomatic ties in 1972.

Kanemaru met earlier Saturday with Hsu Shui-te, representative of Taiwan's de facto consulate in Tokyo, known as the Association of East Asian Relations.

Kanemaru and Hsu agreed that neither side wants to stir up political controversy around the question of a Li visit, LDP sources said.

Rightists Stage 'Decapitation' of French Leader

OW1407093891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0911 GMT 14 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—Fifteen rightist-nationalists from the nationwide group Issuikai watched as one of their members used a wooden sword to decapitate a dummy with the head of French Prime Minister Edith Cresson in a Tokyo park Sunday.

The decapitation of the tomato-soup-filled head was the rightists' Bastille Day protest against Cresson's recent criticism of Japanese trading policies and business practices in Europe.

Cresson has referred to the Japanese as "ants" and accused Japan of being "another universe which wants to conquer."

The group later marched to the French Embassy bearing the head on a pole. Police allowed two members of the group to approach the embassy gate, but embassy staff refused to accept a printed statement of protest.

"We cannot allow her to do this against Japan," Issuikai member Yasu Miki said.

"Cresson should be telling the French people to look at the Japanese and learn from them."

Placards in Japanese and French carried by the group bore the slogans "We Japanese Are Not Ants" and "We Are Not Little Yellow Men."

The protesters were heavily outnumbered by reporters and cameramen. About 30 members of the Japanese and international media, including five French journalists attended the protest.

Cambodia's Chea Sim Arrives for Visit

OW1307142291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1340 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 13 KYODO—Chea Sim, the chairman of Cambodia's National Assembly, arrived in Tokyo on Saturday for a four-day visit that includes talks with Diet members of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

Chea Sim, on his first visit to Japan, was invited by Michio Watanabe, former chairman of the LDP's Policy Affairs Research Council. He is expected to seek Japanese economic aid for Cambodia in his talks with LDP members officials said.

After his stay in Japan, the Phnom Penh leader is slated to visit South Korea and Taiwan before going to Beijing next week for informal talks with leaders of the four factions in the Cambodian war.

Steel Firm To Help Iranian Mill Boost Capacity

OW1207141991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1349 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 12 KYODO—Nippon Steel Corp. said Friday it has agreed to provide technological assistance to help Iran's Esfahan Steel Corp. more than double its steel making capacity in the next five years.

Under the agreement, Esfahan Steel will pay the world's largest steel maker about 2.2 billion yen for its technological cooperation to help boost the annual capacity from the present 2 million tons of crude steel to 4-5 million tons by 1996, Nippon Steel officials said.

The Iranian firm's real production is now limited to about half the present 2 million-ton nominal capacity because of inadequate technology, the officials said.

Nippon Steel will check Esfahan Steel's present capacity, suggest whether to repair or replace existing equipment, and install new production equipment, they said.

The agreement marks Nippon Steel's first technological cooperation arrangement with an Iranian mill, the officials said.

Officials said they hope the agreement will lead to deals to establish a computer-controlled management system and to contract for more capacity-boosting work.

The Iranian company, a member of the National Iranian Steel Corp., is located at Esfahan, about 300 kilometers south of Tehran. The mill, fitted with two blast furnaces, is producing steel shapes, bars and wire rods.

South Koreans File Suit for Official Apology

OW1507102391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0940 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 15 KYODO—A group of South Koreans on Monday filed a suit in the Tokyo district court demanding the Japanese Government's formal apology over the 1919 massacre of 29 ancestors of a proindependence movement at a local village.

An Yong-ung from South Korea told reporters that seven descendants of the victims filed the claim against the Japanese Government in order to make Japanese people aware of the incident from Japan's colonization of Korea.

An said that they also demand the Japanese Government to build a monument to express sympathy for the sufferers.

On April 15, 1919, a military police unit of the colonial administration forced proindependent local residents into a church at Cheanri, Kyonggi, in central South Korea, and shot to death 29 people, setting fire to the church.

An added his grandfather and great-grandfather were killed in the massacre.

Although the South Korean Government built a memorial monument in 1982, An said Japanese people do not know of the bloody suppression.

An said filing the suit was the only way to publicize the massacre.

FTC Head Pledges Rigid Control of Unfair Acts

OW1507125691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1156 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 15 KYODO—The Fair Trade Commission (FTC) will mount efforts for rigid implementation of its new competition guidelines, in order to ensure fair competition in the Japanese market, Setsuo Umezawa, chairman of the commission said Monday.

Speaking in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE, Umezawa referred to the new antimonopoly guidelines on business practices the FTC issued last week, as promised in Japan-U.S. trade talks known as the Structural Impediments Initiative (SII).

He said that the FTC is ready to file criminal complaints against major violations of the Antimonopoly Law.

The FTC set up in January a study group on legal matters of criminal charges for antimonopoly acts, together with the prosecutor's office, he also added.

Umezawa said when companies are suspected of violating the Antimonopoly Law, the FTC will first disclose the names of companies involved in a "warning" action.

If the violation case is proved, the FTC can impose fines of up to 5 million yen, or up to three years' imprisonment, against the involved firms or people.

Umezawa said he believes such a strict stance is necessary to prevent violations.

Under the FTC's new guidelines, the chairman stressed, the FTC may order "Keiretsu" companies with interlocking shareholdings to dispose of stocks in each other if those companies have violated the Antimonopoly Law.

The "Keiretsu" business practice in Japan has been criticized by the United States and other countries as the system [that] often excludes newcomers from competition and hampers foreign companies' efforts to enter the Japanese market.

Umezawa said the FTC has increased its staff, mainly in its investigation sections, by about 30 percent in the past two years and will hire more to implement the new guidelines thoroughly.

At the same time, the FTC chief emphasized that Japanese companies are not well prepared to comply with the Antimonopoly Law and urged them to work out programs of their own to that end.

NHK President Resigns Over False Diet Testimony

OW1507105791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1031 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 15 KYODO—Keiji Shima, president of the semi-official Japan Broadcasting Corp. (NHK), on Monday announced plans to resign for his false testimony to a Diet Communications Committee in April.

Shima, 63, claimed before a House of Representatives committee meeting to have been at General Electric (GE) headquarters in New Jersey during a failed launch of an NHK satellite.

Some Diet members questioned the testimony and NHK issued a statement July 2 saying he was actually in Los Angeles during the launch.

On Monday, Shima acknowledged he was in Los Angeles at the time the BS3H was exploded in the faulty launch from Cape Canaveral, Florida, on April 18 and wrongly testified concerning his whereabouts to the Communications Committee.

Shima claimed to have been at GE, which manufactured the satellite, "to observe in detail the picture and condition of the satellite, and just in case there was an accident."

"Public broadcaster NHK has been met with a grave situation," Shima said Friday in announcing his decision to resign. The NHK Management Committee will decide at its next meeting when Shima should step down.

Shima's false testimony has touched off speculation in the Japanese media about why he was in Los Angeles and about backroom political moves to replace the outspoken NHK chief.

Miyazawa Calls for New Securities Watchdog

OW1207142591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1229 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Osaka, July 12 KYODO—Former Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, on Friday called for establishing a Japanese version of the powerful Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) of the United States to prevent recurrence of a securities scandal.

The leader of the third biggest faction within the LDP [Liberal Democratic Party] said at a press conference in Osaka, "I think it is necessary to set up a third-party institution monitoring irregularities of securities firms."

Japan's four biggest brokerage houses including the world's biggest, Nomura Securities Co., have admitted lending money to organized underword syndicates, and paying tens of billions of yen in compensation to major institutional investors.

Miyazawa, a would-be candidate in the presidential election of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party in October, said that in Japan the Finance Ministry supervises and promotes the securities industry. He pointed out the flaw that the ministry has a monopoly of authority, saying it is sometimes difficult for the ministry to severely regulate the securities industry, while it must advance the cause of the industry.

Miyazawa on Friday started a nationwide campaign for the coming presidential election with a visit to Osaka. He had a press conference after an inspection of the new Kansai Airport, now under construction in Osaka Bay.

He is scheduled to visit Kushiro, Hokkaido, later this month in order to make a proposal on environmental policy. He is also scheduled to go to Oita Prefecture, Kyushu, in the swing from Hokkaido.

Miyazawa replied at the press meeting that he has not yet decided whether to run in the LDP's presidential election scheduled for the end of October, when asked of his plans.

He said he hopes to exchange opinions on a national plan toward the 21st century during his nationwide campaign.

Ministry Investigates Securities Pay-Out

OW1307003991 Tokyo KYODO in English 2357 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 13 KYODO—Four major Japanese securities houses compensated 229 large corporate clients, including nonprofit organizations, for stock and bond trading losses with a total of some 124.6 billion yen, Finance Ministry sources said Saturday.

Nomura Securities Co. paid 25.6 billion yen to 49 firms, Nikko Securities Co. 33.3 billion yen to 59 companies, Daiwa Securities Co. 21.8 billion yen to 55 firms, and Yamaichi Securities Co. 43.9 billion yen to 66 clients, the sources said.

The figures, based on reports submitted by the brokerage houses to the ministry, show the payouts to each major corporate client averaged 540 million yen.

The securities firms have refused to reveal the names of the companies they compensated, saying they must remain confidential.

The ministry also has declined to disclose the names on grounds "the reports (on the payments) were voluntarily submitted by the brokers."

Individual investors are said to be seeking disclosure of the names. Opposition political parties also want to summon to the Diet three witnesses on the widening brokerage scandal, including Setsuya Tabuchi, chairman of Nomura Securities.

Tabuchi told reporters Friday night he would tell everything he knows about the compensation if asked to testify before the Diet, indicating the possibility of revealing the names of payout recipients.

Opposition parties are expected to press the ministry to make public the list of reimbursed companies during a meeting of the House of Representatives' Finance Committee on July 25.

Nomura Chairman May Testify on Brokerage Scandal

OW1307163891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1105 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 13 KYODO—The expected Diet testimony later this month by the chairman of the world's biggest brokerage may give a new twist to the scandal sweeping Japan's securities industry, sources said Saturday.

Setsuya Tabuchi, chairman of Nomura Securities Co., told reporters Friday he is ready to tell the truth about the scandal if summoned to testify before the Diet.

His remark raised a possibility that Tabuchi may disclose the names of corporate clients that received payouts from Nomura to cover their investment losses.

The "Big Four" brokerages involved in the scandal have so far refused to disclose the names of payout recipients. The Finance Ministry has also refused to reveal the names on the grounds of statutory obligations.

Sources in the ministry said the four securities companies paid a total of about 124.6 billion yen to 229 large corporations to make up for their investment losses. Some of these corporations received payouts from two or more brokerages, the sources said.

Nomura paid 25.6 billion yen to 49 corporate clients, Nikko Securities Co. 33.3 billion yen to 59, Daiwa Securities Co. 21.8 billion yen to 55, and Yamaichi Securities Co. 43.9 billion yen to 66, the sources said.

If Tabuchi were to disclose the names of Nomura's favored clients, the other brokerages might be forced to follow suit, industry sources said.

Whether to summon Tabuchi to testify before the Diet will be decided at a meeting of the House of Representatives Finance Committee July 25, political sources said.

Two major opposition parties, the Social Democratic Party and Komeito, have demanded that Yoshihisa Tabuchi, vice chairman of Nomura, and Takuya Iwasaki, vice chairman of Nikko, also be summoned to testify on the scandal.

The two vice chairmen earlier resigned their positions as presidents of their brokerages to take responsibility for the scandal.

Meanwhile, the ruling Liberal Democratic Party is reluctant to summon Setsuya Tabuchi as a sworn witness, the sources said.

They said the possibility cannot be denied that he will be summoned as an "unsworn witness," who is allowed to refuse to answer to questions posed by Diet interpellators.

Under the Diet testimony law, those who are summoned as sworn witnesses are not permitted to refuse testimony.

Nikko Securities Chief on Crime Syndicate Ties

OW1507131491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1236 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 15 KYODO—Kichiro Takao, new president of Nikko Securities Co., said Monday the company will sever its links with underworld crime syndicates.

Takao, who assumed the presidency of Japan's No. 3 brokerage in the wake of the recent scandal over client compensation, said in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE the company will terminate trading with any customers if ever they are found to be involved with organized crime groups.

He added, however, the existing law does not forbid brokerages from doing business with gangster groups and that this is a cause of concern for securities companies.

It is almost impossible initially to discover crime syndicates among clients although they can be detected in the course of doing business with them, he said.

As soon as any clients are found to be gangster groups, the company will immediately terminate trading with them, he said.

Nikko's financing affiliate provided a huge amount in loans to a former boss of Japan's second largest gangster group, the Inagawa- kai, and also paid out massive sums to favored clients to make up for their investment losses.

Takao said he would not disclose the names of recipient clients even if he is summoned to testify before the Diet because, he said, the company would lose the trust of its clients if it reveals the names of its customers.

Two major opposition parties, the Social Democratic Party and Komeito, have demanded that the top executives of Nikko and Nomura Securities Co. be summoned to testify on the scandal in the Diet.

A decision on the matter is scheduled to be made at a meeting between ruling and opposition parties Thursday.

North Korea

South's Justice Minister's Remarks to Assembly

*SK1207050191 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0421 GMT 12 Jul 91*

[Text] Pyongyang July 12 (KCNA)—The puppet justice minister, speaking at the second-day sitting of the 155th puppet extraordinary National Assembly session on July 9, openly revealed once again the scheme to suppress the National Council of Student Representatives (Chondaehyop) which is carrying on patriotic activities for independence, democracy and reunification, according to a radio report from Seoul.

Alleging that the righteous activities of Chondaehyop are based on the North's line, he made no scruples about such a provocative outburst intended to link the activities of the pro-reunification patriotic forces with the North.

Referring to the arrest of Kim Chong-sik, chairman of Chondaehyop, he threatened that "the remaining organizing members, too, would be rounded up."

This blast at the beginning of the "extraordinary National Assembly session" tells that the No Tae-u ruling group is resorting more recklessly to its new reactionary offensive and, subsequently, a harsher "security-oriented rule" is being established in South Korea.

Committee Plans To Send Students to Seoul

*SK1307050491 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0447 GMT 13 Jul 91*

[Text] Pyongyang July 13 (KCNA)—The Korean Students Committee (KSC) will send its student delegates to the Seoul grand festival for national reunification through Panmunjom on August 13, no matter how desperately the splittist forces may block the way, said Choe Hyon-tok, chairman of the KSC, in a statement released on July 12.

Pointing out that a grand reunification festival of students in the North, the South and overseas will be held in Seoul on August 15 on the initiative of the National Council of Student Representatives (Chondaehyop) of South Korea, Choe Hyon-tok said that it is giving great joy and encouragement to all the fellow countrymen.

Our committee is preparing for a dispatch of hundreds of man and woman students as delegates, for colorful cultural and art pieces and for the formation of a sports team to be sent to the finals of "football games for Yim Su-kyong cup" due on August 12 in Seoul, he said, and continued:

However, a grave situation of suppressing Chondaehyop, the host of the Seoul reunification festival, at the point of the bayonet and arresting its leading members is prevailing in South Korea today. And delegates to the July 7 student talks were checked on their way to Panmunjom for a working discussion of the festival and the tentacle of suppression is stretching out even to the delegates of Chondaehyop staying in Berlin.

Our KSC will pool strength with all the students at home and abroad including Chondaehyop and make every possible effort to make a success of the August 15 grand reunification festival of students.

I strongly demand that if the South Korean authorities' talk about dialogue, exchange and cooperation is not a lie, they should stop obstructing the August 15 grand reunification festival of students, blocking the way of the North side's student delegates to the South and suppressing Chondaehyop, the host of the reunification festival, and immediately release all the patriotic, hot-blooded students including woman student Yim Su-kyong, the "flower of reunification", and students Im Chong-sok, Song Kap-sok and Kim Chong-sik.

Availing ourselves of this opportunity, we affirm that if the South Korean authorities want to participate in the grand reunification festival of our students, we will invite and welcome them as guests of honor with pleasure.

South's Comments on Armistice Agreement Viewed

*SK1307044391 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0420 GMT 13 Jul 91*

[Text] Pyongyang July 13 (KCNA)—The South Korean puppet foreign minister in a hearing before the "National Assembly Foreign Affairs and Reunification Committee" said the Armistice Agreement should remain in force until it is replaced by a peace agreement by the North and the South of Korea, "direct parties concerned," and that the U.N. Command should also be maintained until that time, which he stated was their policy. He added that they were making clear their position as these issues might be raised following North and South Korea's admission to the United Nations.

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today says that the puppets like a thief with a guilty conscience hastily talk about the settlement of the problem of a peace agreement even before they are admitted to the United Nations.

The news analyst notes:

The puppets vociferate about the signing of a peace agreement as if they were a "signatory" to the Armistice Agreement. This is an obtrusive act of those who do not know where they stand.

The issue of replacing the Korean Armistice Agreement by a peace agreement should be settled through talks between the DPRK and the United States, signatories to the agreement.

The South Korean authorities are not qualified nor got the face to behave like a "party concerned" in the replacement of the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement. It was none other than the puppets who doggedly opposed the signing of an Armistice Agreement when the U.S. imperialists begged for truce negotiation with the DPRK after suffering a miserable defeat in the Korean war.

The South Korean puppets without qualification style themselves a "party concerned" in the replacement of the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement. They seek in this to mislead public opinion at home and abroad, prevent the Korean Armistice Agreement from being replaced by a peace agreement, free the United States from the responsibility for the aggravation of the tension on the Korean peninsula and perpetuate the presence of the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons in South Korea.

The despicable act of the No Tae-u group clinging to the sleeves of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces, the source of war on the Korean peninsula, shows to the world people more clearly their poor position as puppets without sovereignty.

No Tae-u's U.S. Visit 'Nation-Selling Junket'

SK1307114791 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Commentary by station commentator Chong Pong-kil: "A Flunkeyist Nation-Selling Junket by a Pro-U.S. Stooge"]

[Text] Traitor No Tae-u's U.S. junket ended. The traitor, speaking at Seoul Airport on 7 July, babbled that his U.S. junket was a trip of great significance, raving as if his junket brought forth some success. The government-patronized propaganda media are also chiming along with this. However, this is shameless sophism to veil the antipeace, antireunification, and antinational nature of this junket.

As is already known, during the junket traitor No Tae-u met Bush and other high-ranking figures and begged for their support. The ugly and vicious nature of traitor No Tae-u as a U.S. imperialist stooge was well revealed in his prattle concerned with the nuclear inspection issue as well.

Meeting his masters, he did not mention those 1,000 U.S. nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea at all but repeated nuclear inspection on the North only, babbling about nuclear development. He also staged a farce of confirming his stand that the North should accept international nuclear inspection without preconditions and that this is an issue different from the withdrawal of the nuclear weapons from South Korea.

Some 1,000 nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea is a grave threat to peace and security not only of Korea but also Asia. Therefore, all the Korean people and the world's peace-loving people expressed great concern over it, and call for nuclear inspection not only on us who do not have nuclear weapons but of the U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea at the same time.

Nevertheless, he remained silent on the nuclear weapons in South Korea and raved about nuclear inspection only of us who do not have nuclear weapons and are not capable of making nuclear weapons. This is brigandish logic, and prattle that can only be made by such a war-servant as traitor No Tae-u who is trying frantically to implement U.S. imperialists' nuclear war policy without regard to the fate of the country and the nation.

This also means that the puppets, together with the U.S. imperialists, are attempting to inflict nuclear calamity on the Korean people and the Asian people at any time.

During his junket, traitor No Tae-u babbled that they are doing their best to realize reunification, begging the United States to actively support South Korea. All the puppets have done is to deepen confrontation between the North and the South and build the wall of division higher. That traitor No Tae-u begged the United States to support reunification under the South Korean initiative is nothing but revealing their criminal scheme to realize, with the U.S. imperialists, the ambition for reunification by winning over communism and reunification by absorption.

The puppet traitor begged his master for a continuous stationing of the U.S. forces in South Korea and agreed to share greater military spending in return for it and to open more widely the agricultural produce market, financial market, etc. This should not be overlooked.

In leaving South Korea in the hands of the U.S. imperialists as their military base, the puppets give the United States an enormous amount of money, as much as $2 billion, every year for the maintenance of their troops. As if this were not enough, the puppets agreed to share a greater burden of military spending and totally submitted to the master's pressure to open markets. What a terrible national traitor and ugly and vicious pro-U.S. stooge he is!

Traitor No Tae-u is the worst example of human refuse who is sustaining his filthy life under the protection of the U.S. imperialists. Facts clearly show that the traitor No Tae-u's U.S. junket is an antinational and antireunification junket aimed at continuously leaving South Korea in the hands of the U.S. imperialists as their nuclear base, blocking the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea, and, further, realizing reunification with the U.S. imperialists by winning over communism, and that it was an ugly and vicious flunkeyist nation-selling junket.

The U.S. imperialists invited traitor No Tae-u, who is the object of denunciation and rejection of all the Korean people, to the United States and had a conference with him to continuously occupy South Korea and to open the South Korean market more widely, revealing to the world once again their vicious nature as a basic obstacle to peace and reunification of Korea and as an aggressor and plunderer.

The puppets rave about some success in connection with the nation-selling junket. This is shameless. Puppet traitor, through his U.S. junket, added another new crime to the many crimes he has already committed. The entire Korean people will never tolerate traitor No Tae-u's crime, but will bring him to the court of a stern trial of history without fail. The South Korean puppets should abandon the ambition for reunification by winning over communism, which is anachronistic and which can never be realized, and immediately step down from power.

Reunification Committee Views No's 'Offensive'

SK1207050091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0437 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang, July 12 (KCNA)—The secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland issued information No. 596 on July 11 denouncing the No Tae-u ruling group's heinous repressive offensive to stifle the pro-reunification democratic forces in South Korea.

Recalling that the South Korean authorities arrested eight leading members of the National Council of Student Representatives (Chondaehyop) including its chairman Kim Chong-sik on July 8 and are now scheming to punish them, charging them with organizing a "secret visit" to Pyongyang by two man and woman students now staying in Berlin and with holding "prior consultations" with the North side, and are intensifying suppression of leading members of the dissident organisations including the Coalition for National Democratic Movement (Chonminnyon), the information says:

This is a vicious move to emasculate and stifle progressive organisations fighting for independence, democracy and reunification and a sinister intrigue to foil the August 15 grand reunification festival of students in the North, the South and overseas and the 2nd pan-national rally which are ripening.

This is also an unpardonable anti-national criminal act to render the relations between the North and the South strained and deliberately lay a hurdle in the way of reunification by linking Chondaehyop's dispatch of its delegates with us in a far-fetched manner.

At present, the South Korean authorities are stretching out crooked hands of suppression even to the delegates of Chondaehyop who are staying overseas to arrange for the August 15 grand reunification festival of students in the North, the South and overseas.

All these facts prove that the South Korean authorities' talk about "dialogue", "reunification" and the like is a lie.

Commentary Reacts to 12 Jul No Tae-u Speech

SK1407085791 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0021 GMT 14 Jul 91

[NODONG SINMUN 14 July commentary: "Splittist's Out-of-Date Empty Words of Reunification"]

[Text] No Tae-u, in a so-called Advisory Council for Democratic and Peaceful Unification on 12 July, made an opening address.

While saying that we ourselves should create an atmosphere conducive for reunification, he added that to this end, the issue of the North and South jointly celebrating the national liberation anniversary; the issue of carrying out humanitarian exchanges; the issue of opening television and radio broadcasts; and the issue of establishing a peace system should be settled.

It is known that while making an overseas trip, No Tae-u spread a rumor that when he returned to South Korea, he would take forward-looking measures on the reunification issue.

Like the saying, "much noise and no substance," judging from No Tae-u's babblings about the reunification issue, it is evident to even those who are not experts on the reunification issue that there is no truth in his address at all. In addition, it is evident that he did not state a basic way to settle the reunification issue, and that there is not a clear measure to guarantee peace. Accordingly, his address disappointed the people. In a word, No Tae-u's address gives us only the impression that it is a scenario seeking divison but with exchanges, not for reunification.

Even though No Tae-u blustered out that the reunification issue should be settled by ourselves, he did not take a correct position and stance toward it. If, like his words, we ourselves are to create an atmosphere favorable for reunification, he should have taken the attitude of correctly judging the national ardent desire for reunification and the fellow countrymen's mounting aspiration in the North and the South. In addition, he should have taken the stance of trying to settle the reunification issue by the independent national strength. Without mentioning this, No Tae-u, however, tried to gain something abroad while talking about it or about the United States and the Soviet Union. This is enough to show No Tae-u's flunkeyist and treacherous nature. But, we cannot find a correct way for reunification.

If he is to peacefully settle the national reunification issue, he should also refrain from such activities as liking or irritating others. While talking about reconciliation and a peaceful reunification, No Tae-u said that someone should be opened, clinging to the illusion of a merger by absorption. Thus, it is evident to everyone that his words are not designed to settle the reunification issue through reconciliation and by pooling the North's and South's strength. As for openness and closure, it is South Korea that is really closed. In addition, it is South Korea that should be opened.

Judging from the attitude of the South Korean ruling quarters involved in North-South relations, they have completely closed the North and South by building an iron and concrete wall. They do not open a channel for North-South dialogue, they cling to dialogue led by authorities, and they block civilian-level dialogue at bayonet point. In addition, they fear the patriotic forces calling for reunification through alliance with communists and the North, and atrociously suppress them. Does No Tae-u, who has put South Korea into such a situation, have the effrontery to speak ill of others?

The so-called proposals stated by No Tae-u are more unreasonable. Still worse, his intention to state such proposals is impure. Even though No Tae-u talked about the North and South jointly celebrating the national liberation anniversary, about launching a great cross-country march for reunification from Mt. Paektu to Mt. Halla, and about a great debate for reunification, everyone cannot help doubting his truthfulness. Thus, this is nothing but gibberish.

The South Korean ruling quarters checked the youths and students in the North and the South from launching a great cross-country march for reunification two years ago. In addition, they prevented the South side's delegations from going to the North to participate in the 15 August pannational meeting last year. This is a bygone issue.

Let us look into the present behavior of the South Korean ruling bunch. The Pannational Alliance for Reunification—a combined body of the patriotic forces of the North, South, and from overseas—decided to hold the second pannational meeting for peace and reunification of the country in Seoul on 15 August and has made steady preparations for it for a long time. The students of the North and the South are moving briskly toward a grand reunification festival. However, the No Tae-u ring says that they will disallow the Seoul pannational meeting jointly pushed ahead by the patriotic reunification forces of the North, South, and from overseas and the students' grand reunification festival, and are imprisoning the figures of various circles and students who are preparing for the reunification festival in South Korea. They blocked the passage to Seoul by the delegates of the North side headquarters of the Pannational Alliance for Reunification to participate in the preparatory meeting for the pannational meeting in Seoul.

If the South Korean ruling bunch truly has the will to hold the reunification festival, they should not block the pannational meeting and the grand reunification festival of those who wholeheartedly yearn for peace and the reunification of the country. Traitor No Tae-u's babbling about a commemorative meeting, a cross-country march, and a debate is nonsensical as he is blocking the said reunification festival. We cannot but regard it as maneuvers for providing a divisionists' stage of divisive ballads. It also exposes the impure scheme to break up the pannational meeting and the grand reunification festival which are being prepared at the civilian level.

We can say the same thing about the issue of so-called North-South exchange on which traitor No Tae-u raved about humanitarian visits, opening up television and radio broadcasts, and economic exchange and cooperation. This speech by No Tae-u was the repetition of the advocacy of the previous divisive ruling bunches of South Korea, and there is nothing new about it, for one thing. Moreover, the problematic point is their impure design of advocating exchange only. As has been known, our fellow countrymen in the North, South, and from overseas have made a timetable for reunification in the nineties, calling for finalizing the joint national method of reunifying the country for it at an early date.

The urgent and essential problem awaiting solution between the North and the South now is to finalize the method of reunifying the country. In connection with the present demand of the nation, we have already proposed to convene a political consultative meeting for national reunification and discuss and finalize the method of reunification. However, No Tae-u, while saying that reunification is realizable soon, did not mention anything about such a fundamental problem as finalizing the method of reunification but babbled about exchange only. This is surprising and hardly understandable.

Moreover, the puppets maintain that the method of exchange between East and West Germany in the old days should be employed, outmodedly, automatically by our country. This is, after all, a manifestation of their impure scheme to prolong the division of our country indefinitely and lay a road to the German-style merger by absorption carrying on exchanges in a silly way.

Today, when reunification in the nineties has become the foremost task, whatever issue they may raise turning away from the reasonable method of reunification, it cannot be taken as one that conforms with the national aspiration for reunification, nor can such a person be acknowledged as one with a will to achieve reunification.

It is time that No Tae-u should clearly set forth to the nation his position concerning the method of reunification. Judging from No Tae-u's words and conduct, it is evident that he still has an ambition for a merger by absorption. He need not hide that. No Tae-u had better frankly admit that he raves about openness and exchange because he dreams of a merger by absorption, turning away from the reunification plan by means of our fair and just confederal system to realize reunification through a fair method in which neither side dominates the other.

As for the issue of consolidating peace raved about by No Tae-u, it is nothing but an empty talk without any substance. Although No Tae-u loudly talked this and that about the issue of consolidating peace, he declined to mention the practical steps that can actually guarantee peace on the Korean peninsula.

He did not make even a single remark about the issue of disarmament and withdrawal of U.S. troops and nuclear weapons which should be resolved with priority to eliminate the political and military confrontation and to ease tension between the North and the South.

What he proposed was the adoption of a nonaggression declaration between the North and the South. However, what No Tae-u should do is, instead of putting forward this issue anew before us, to accept the nonaggression declaration which we already put forward and the content of which was reached on agreement between the two sides.

The people of the world still vividly remember that even after No Tae-u called for adoption of a nonaggression declaration between the North and the South in the past in the UN arena, he was knocked down [najappajida] as we proposed in actuality for adopting a nonaggression declaration.

We are worried about the intentions hidden in No Tae-u's current remarks with suspicion as to whether his remarks are designed to instigate public opinion and to take advantage of the effects of propaganda, and whether he will repeat his double-dealing tactics.

No Tae-u's remark that consolidating peace and building the system of peace are the issue of the persons concerned [tangsaja] between the North and the South is absurd and nonsensical. It is a fact known to the entire world that under the conditions in which the U.S. imperialist aggressor forces occupied South Korea with the prerogative of supreme command of the puppet army, the authorities between the North and the South cannot solve all of the issues concerning peace.

This being the case, we put forward a long time ago the proposal for turning the Armistice Agreement between the DPRK and the United States into a peace agreement in order to realize a turning point for national reunification and for adopting a nonaggression between the North and the South. The South Korean puppets know this but pretend that they do not know. This is indeed a childish [yuchihan] act.

The question of peace in our country can be completely resolved only when the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons that threaten peace on the Korean peninsula and create the danger of war are withdrawn. Covering up this stern reality, the puppets raved that the persons concerned in the North and the South have the total responsibility for building the system of peace. This is a mean nation-selling flunkeyist act of the puppets to back the occupation of South Korea by U.S. forces, to shirk the responsibility of the United States for aggravating tension on the Korean peninsula and to keep the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons in South Korea forever while attempting to show that they have sovereignty.

It is clear that No Tae-u, being called into Washington and backed by the United States, made empty and absurd remarks on reunification, peace and so forth in order to repay the U.S. support.

No Tae-u made an official pledge to become the president who will achieve reunification. But he only pursued permanent division of the nation. Thus, the assumption that he played in a drama this time to lay a foundation for long-term power of the Democratic Liberal Party by winning popularity in the later stage of his power is not unreasonable at all.

However, what No Tae-u has put forward were so bigoted, so hackneyed and with such a separatist-style that he is labeled once again as a vicious divisionist by the world's people.

Instead of attempting to mislead public opinion and ridicule fellow countrymen with preposterous empty remarks, the traitor No Tae-u should remove various political and physical barriers between the North and the South, should realize free visits and full opening, and should guarantee the pannational rally by compatriots in the North, the South and from overseas who aspire to reunification by recognizing the significance of this rally. He should respond to the political consultative conference for national reunification, which is designed to decide the means for reunifying the nation, and should agree to force the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons to withdraw and to adopt a nonaggression declaration between the North and the South. He should suspend the repression of patriotic reunification forces. Thus, he should show his sincerity for the reunification issue.

Pak Song-chol Proposes Reunification Conference

SK1507062691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0547 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 15 (KCNA)—Pak Song-chol, chairman of the north side's preparatory committee for the political consultative conference for national reunification, issed a statement Sunday, proposing to convene a political consultative conference for national reunification in which the authorities and representatives of political parties and public organisations of the North and the South would participate on the forthcoming 46th anniversary of the August 15 liberation.

He said:

The respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song in his new year address laid down the great principle of the way of national reunification, that is, the way of reunifying the country through a confederacy based on the concept of one nation, one state, two systems and two governments, and put forward a new epoch-making proposal for convening a political consultative conference for national reunification to reach a nationwide agreement on it.

We have made every possible effort to realise this conference, but have failed to receive an appropriate response from the South Korean side.

The issue of reaching a nationwide agreement on the way of national reunification has become an urgent and matured demand which brooks no further delay and a pressing question whose solution requires top priority.

If any one talks about "reunification" and "exchange", while ignoring this stark fact, it is no more than an empty talk and a hypocrisy to deceive public opinion.

If the South Korean authorities truly have the intention to improve the North-South relations and the will to work for reunification, I think, there is no ground for them to refuse to accept our proposal for convening the political consultative conference for national reunification, an outstanding issue at present, and there is no reason for them to hesitate to come out to the negotiating table to confirm the way of national reunification.

There is neither selfishness nor stratagem of benefiting one side and harming the other in our proposal for convening this conference.

We do not want this conference to be held as a large-scale meeting attended by thousands of people nor intend to absolutise our proposal and impose our will on the other.

If an appropriate number of the authorities and delegates from the political parties and public organisations of the North and the South attend this conference and sincerely and repeatedly have dialogue and negotiation on the reunification proposals raised by the North and the South, they will be able to jointly find and formulate a fair and excellent way of reunification.

We are not bigotted at all in approaching the reunification issue and are willing to respect any one's opinion helpful to reunification.

We have already clarified our flexible position by stating that although we believe the idea of establishing the democratic confederal republic of Koryo is the most just way of reunification which suits the specific conditions of Korea, we are ready to consult the matter of gradually and completely effecting reunification through confederation by vesting the regional autonomous governments of the confederal republic with more rights on a tentative basis and then increasing the functions of the central government in the future, in an effort to make it easier for the whole nation to reach an agreement on the way of national reunification.

We think that at the political consultative conference for national reunification, not only this proposal of ours but also the "unification proposal" of the South Korean authorities and other proposals advanced by political parties organisations and individual personages of South Korea can be discussed.

The point is to confirm the most reasonable and realistic way of reunification reflecting the general will of the nation. It is not to place one thing above the other or discriminate between the winner and the loser.

From this point of view, I courteously propose to the South side to hold in Pyongyang or in Seoul a political consultative conference for national reunification to be attended by some 50 delegates each from the North and the South, including about 5 persons each from authorities, political parties and organisations of each side, on the occasion of the 46th anniversary of the August 15 liberation now only one month off and hold working-level talks between delegates of the authorities, political parties and organisations of the North and the South at Panmunjom at the earliest possible date for making successful preparations for this historical meeting.

I express the belief that when the authorities and the representatives of political parties and organisations of the North and the South sit together and open-heartedly discuss the matters, carrying a pure desire and noble mission for national reunification, transcending differences in ideology and social system, they will be able to confirm the nation's common way of reunifying the country and open a broad way of accelerating the reunification in the 1990s.

The North side's preparatory committee for the political consultative conference for national reunification will make all its sincere efforts possible to convene the political consultative conference for national reunification in which the authorities and representatives of political parties and organisations of the North and the South will participate on the forthcoming 46th anniversary of the August 15 liberation.

I express the hope that the South Korean authorities, political parties and organisations will positively respond to our realistic proposal for convening a political consultative conference for national reunification which reflects the unanimous desire and will of the whole nation.

South Citizens 'Longing' for Life in North

SK1307103091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1013 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 13 (KCNA)—South Korean people are longing for the Northern half of Korea where there is no exploitation and oppression and everyone leads an independent and creative life as the master of the country.

A worker said:

We workers look up to President Kim Il-song and long for the North where he is, because the North is, indeed, a welfare society for the people in which all the people equally enjoy freedom and rights and an ideal society of mankind in which the people's age-old desire has been brought into reality.

A pressman said a powerful socialist country has been built in the North through the application of the chuche idea. He noted: The socialist society built in the North is a society whose masters are the people and in which everything is made to serve them. That is why the longing for the North is growing ardent among the people in the South in recent years.

Noting that General Kim Il-song had fought against the brigandish Japanese imperialists to liberate the country and restore the destiny of the nation, a professor of Korea University said:

General Kim Il-song is the architect of national prosperity and defender of people's eternal happiness.

CPRF Denounces Detaining 'Bereaved Families'

SK1407083791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0809 GMT 14 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 14 (KCNA)—The Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF] in its Information No. 597 issued on July 13 denounced the South Korean ruling group for detaining and persecuting bereaved families of patriotic martyrs including the father of martyr Kang Kyong-tae.

The fascist authorities took Kang's father to Yongdungpo detention house on July 11, charging him with causing a "disturbance in the court" and held incommunicado the father of student Pak Chong-chol for the same reason. And they issued arrest writs against three members of the

Council of the Movement of Families for Practising Democracy in South Korea (Mingahyop) and are searching them.

The information says:

This is a lawless, brigandish act of those who committed a crime by murdering a patriotic student, an act reminding one of a thief crying "Stop thief!."

The members of Mingahyop including Kang's and Pak's fathers who became targets of suppression this time are bereaved family members who were deprived of their beloved sons by fascist murderers. It is only too natural that they should demand an immediate halt to the unfair trial.

South's Investigation Into Suicide Note Viewed

SK1407102191 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0820 GMT 14 Jul 91

["Ridiculous 'Results of Investigation'"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang July 14 (KCNA)—MINJU CHOSON today, commenting on the "results of the investigation" of the South Korean puppet prosecution into the "case of the ghostwriting of the will of Kim Ki-sol", brands them as entirely ridiculous "results."

The news analyst says:

The South Korean puppet prosecution published the "results of investigation" into this "case" after accusing Kang Ki-hun, chief of the General Affairs Department of Chonminnyon, of "assisting" Kim Ki-sol in his suicide.

The puppets announced that they had failed to clarify the motive and course of the "ghostwriting" by Kang Ki-hun and they would continue the investigation.

This is another despicable act of the puppets to fake up the false "case of ghostwriting" at any cost, do harm to a democratic figure and penalise him by invoking a fascist law.

"Ghostwriting of the will" is a fabrication of the puppets.

The puppets isolated Kang Ki-hun from the outside world and interrogated him, keeping him from sleep. This was aimed at fabricating the "case of ghostwriting" in a back room through torture.

In desperately trying to fabricate the "case" at any cost they seek to beguile public opinion into believing that Chonminnyon "manipulated behind the scene" the self-immolation of different persons and to shift the blame on to this organisation.

The No Tae-u group must immediately stop the fascist suppression and plots against Chonminnyon and unconditionally release all the democratic figures illegally arrested.

Further on 'Ghostwritten' Note

SK1507082691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0534 GMT 15 Jul 91

["Stopgap Measure of Those Driven Into Corner"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang July 15 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comments on the No Tae-u ruling group's publication of the "results of investigation" into the "case of ghostwriting the will" of a young man Kim Ki-sol, chief of the social affairs department of Chonminnyon [National Democratic Alliance of Korea]

The news analyst says:

The No Tae-u ruling group, publishing the "results of investigation" on July 12, announced that although they failed to clarify the "motive and course of the ghostwriting", they accused Kang Ki-hun, chief of the general affairs department of Chonminnyon, of "assisting Kim Ki-sol in his suicide" because "guilt could be proven" by the "results of identifying the handwriting by the institute of scientific investigation" and by "investigation into witnesses."

This is a clumsy and despicable act of the fascist hangmen to insult and distort the patriotic will of those who burned themselves or jumped into death in protest against the colonial military fascist rule and to stifle the pro-reunification patriotic forces.

The socalled "results of investigation" of the puppet prosecution alleging that the will of Kim Ki-sol was ghostwritten are an outrageous fabrication.

Although the South Korean authorities base themselves largely on the "results of the identification of the handwriting", the "institute of scientific investigation" which "identified the handwriting" is a puppet organ and no one can believe the "results of identification" unilaterally conducted by that organ.

The results of "investigation into witnesses" were also fabricated by the fascist group through threat and blackmail, appeasement and deception after taking the persons involved in the case to the prosecution.

U.S., South 10, 11 Jul Military Exercises Noted

SK1307053591 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0443 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 13 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists on July 10 and 11 brought formations of fighter-bombers, assault planes, pursuit-assault planes, refueling tankers and observation planes based in the Japan proper and the Pacific into the skies above Oeyon and Anmyon Islets and let them stage a joint ground strike exercise aimed at a surprise attack on the North side in coordination with more than 140 fighter planes of the U.S. Airforce present in South Korea and the puppet airforce including F-4, F-16 and A-37, according to military sources.

On July 11, they sent an EH-60 electronic helicopter for an electronic reconnaissance on targets in the area of the North side along the central sector of the front, and sent an E-3 AWACS plane to the sky above the central areas of South Korea for an aerial espionage on the northern half of Korea.

In another development, the South Korean puppets let fly formations of armed helicopters which made a sortie to the sky above Paegnyon-ri in Paju County on July 11 in an exercise for surprise attack, take-off and landing simulating an infiltration into the depths of the North side under our very eyes.

That day, the puppets fired hundreds of shells, staging a war game in the area near the Military Demarcation Line with the mobilization of groups of 105 mm guns and 90 mm recoilless guns.

Seamen Mark 'Anti-U.S. Joint Struggle' Month

SK1307052991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0439 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 13 (KCNA)—Crewmen of the Vietnamese-flagged ship "Luc Nam", the Soviet-flagged ship "Ivan Goncharov", the Honduran-flagged ship "Semking'-', the Indian-flagged ship "Soren Toubro" and the Panamanian-flagged ship "Galy" anchoring at Nampo port visited the Sinchon Museum and released a statement on the occasion of the month of anti-U.S. joint struggle.

Displayed at the museum are materials showing brutal massacres committed by the U.S. imperialist aggressors in Sinchon during the past Korean war.

The statement said that U.S. imperialism has been wrecker of peace, a chieftain of war and strangler of mankind down through history.

Pointing out that the U.S. imperialists remain still today the wrecker of peace and security and the root cause of aggression and nuclear war, the statement said that all the nuclear weapons and aggression troops of the United States must be withdrawn from South Korea without delay and the Korean Peninsula be turned into a nuclear-free, peace zone.

The statement further said:

Peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula are directly linked with peace in Asia and the world.

We resolutely support the stand of the Korean people to reunify the country on the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity against outside interference and war.

Then, the visitors burned a model of nuclear weapons in denunciation of the nuclear war moves of the U.S. imperialists.

Paper Cited on U.S. Troops, Weapons Withdrawal

SK1507063191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0502 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 15 (KCNA)—The U.S. newspaper International Herald Tribune June 27 dealing with the way of denuclearisation on the Korean peninsula demanded the withdrawal of the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea.

Referring to the principled stand of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the problem of nuclear inspection, the paper urged the United States to allow an international inspection of its nuclear bases in South Korea.

It said the withdrawal of the U.S. nuclear weapons from South Korea will contribute to confidence-building in Korea and remove the danger of war from this region.

Asking why the United States must withdraw its nuclear weapons from South Korea, the paper said it is becuase these nuclear weapons threaten peace and security in Asia and constitute the main obstacle to North-South confidence-buidling and disarmament.

The paper demanded that the United States take a decisive step to withdraw its nuclear weapons from South Korea.

It stressed that a nuclear-free zone must be created from the Korean peninsula.

Daily Sees Increasing U.S. Nuclear Threat

SK1507072591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0521 GMT 15 Jul 91

["Nuclear Blackmail Gets More Wanton"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang July 15 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN Sunday carried an article dealing with the daily intensified nuclear blackmail of the United States against the Korean people.

The author of the article says:

The United States this year, too, staged nuclear war exercises with the mobilisation of a huge amount of nuclear equipment, ignoring our just demand that the "Team Spirit" joint manoeuvres be stopped for the North-South high-level talks which had been arranged with so much efforts. Even the E 4B, a special plane commanding nuclear warfare, was mobilised in the war game.

From the second half of 1989 the U.S. imperialists have been staging nuclear aerial war exercises over South Korea almost every day by mobilising a great number of air pirates.

These are also unprecedented nuclear threat and blackmail of the United States against our people.

It must not go unnoticed that the United States is increasing nuclear threat as never before, raising a hue and cry over our "capacity of nuclear weapon development." The United States and the South Korean authorities have even worked out a "combat training plan" to take "a joint countermeasure" against our fictitious "nuclear facilities" and "remove" them in "the event of contingency".

What the United States and the South Korean authorities seek is crystal clear. It intends to divert the world's attention elsewhere from its nuclear weapons brought into South Korea and conceal its nuclear blackmail policy which it is pursuing in Asia with Korean peninsula as the base.

The persistent policy of nuclear blackmail pursued by the United States on the Korean peninsula is explained by the position held by South Korea in the execution of its Asian policy.

South Korea is the only foremost vantage point of the United States continguous to the Asian Continent. The

United States regards South Korea as "a vital link" in the establishment of its domination over the Asian area.

The United States is dreaming of keeping hold on South Korea as its nuclear outpost and, with it as the stronghold, to threaten and control with nuclear weapons those countries which go against its "interests" and "grit."

Nuclear blackmail is anachronistic. With no amount of attempt can the United States frighten our people and the Asian people.

U.S. Said Major Nuclear Threat in East Asia

SK1407102791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0825 GMT 14 Jul 91

["Mastermind of Nuclear Threat"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang July 14 (KCNA)—U.S. rulers through their official statements and press are spreading rumours that the North is "developing" nuclear weapons and telling the cock-and-bull story that such "develoment of nuclear weapons is threatening security in East Asia."

NODONG SINMUN today in a signed commentary says this preposterous story proves the baseness of the imperialist aggressors who make no scruple of fabricating anything for their sinister purpose.

Security in East Asia is not threatened by the North but by the United States and its nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea, the paper points out, and goes on:

In case the situation in this region surrounding the Korean peninsula go against its "interests" and "grit," the United States intends to threaten and control any country with the nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea under the pretext of "fulfilling security commitments." To this end, the U.S imperialists have given the right to launch nuclear weapons to their field Army commanders in Asia, unlike in other regions, and continuously staged the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises and other war games in South Korea and its neighbouring area.

Therefore, our people and the Asian people are constantly exposed to nuclear threat, which is increasing as the days go by.

It is ridiculous of the United States to make much ado about "development of nuclear weapons" in the North, while keeping mum about its nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea.

By making such a noise, the U.S. imperialists are trying to hoodwink people at home and abroad, cover up their policy of nuclear blackmail, justify their keeping hold on South Korea as a nuclear base and find a pretext for a nuclear war.

U.S. Stand on Nuclear Inspection Assailed

SK1507082491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0528 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 15 (KCNA)—U.S. President Bush and U.S. State Secretary Baker some time ago claimed that the "nuclear inspection" of the DPRK and the U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea should not be interlinked. The traitor of South Korea cried in the same tone.

This is a sophism which can convince no one. It is a shameless outcry in which they again called for a unilateral "nuclear inspection" of the DPRK while leaving the U.S. nuclear weapons deployed by the United States in South Korea as "inviolable".

NODONG SINMUN today brands this arrogant attitude in demanding a "nuclear inspection" of somebody else and insisting on the United States' "privilege" of keeping nuclear weapons in South Korea as a brigandish arbitrariness of imperialism.

The news analyst says:

It is unreasonable to demand a unilateral nuclear inspection of the DPRK which has no nuclear weapons and does not intend to possess them, while ignoring the stark fact that the United States has turned South Korea into its nuclear base and is posing a grave nuclear threat to the DPRK and other Asian nations.

The United States has no ground and reason to oppose our demand for the withdrawal of the nuclear weapons from South Korea and the guarantee of no use of nuclear weapons.

The U.S. authorities' insistence that the "nuclear inspection" of the DPRK and the U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea are separate issues is an expression of the self-justified and arbitrary way of thinking of the imperialists who think they can make others believe even their utterly unreasonable argument. By doing so, they intend to keep their nuclear weapons in South Korea for an indefinite period and keep hold on it as their forefront nuclear attack base for the anti-DPRK, anti-socialist strategy.

They reveal this intention when they raise the "nuclear inspection" as a condition for the "improvement" of the DPRK-U.S. relations.

The United States must stop talking nonsense and immediately withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea.

Kim Yong-nam Meets With U.S. Journalist 15 Jul

SK1507073791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0456 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 14 (KCNA)—Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam today met and had a conversation with American journalist Bernard Krisher and his party at the Mansudae Assembly Hall.

Banquet Marks Treaty Anniversary With PRC

SK1207134991 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 10 Jul 91

[Text] The DPRK Government arranged a banquet at the People's Palace of Culture on the evening of 10 July on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the signing of the DPRK-PRC Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance.

Invited and present were Chinese Ambassador to our country Zheng Yi and embassy staffs; the delegation of the Chinese People's Volunteers from the DPRK-PRC side to the Military Armistice Commission; the delegation of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries [CPAFFC] and the China-Korean Friendship Association headed by Han Xu, president of the CPAFFC; the goodwill delegation of Jilin Province, China, headed by Liu Xilin, vice governor of Jilin Province; the goodwill delegation of Liaoning Province, China, headed by Peng Xiangsong, vice chairman of the Liaoning Provincial Political Consultative Conference Committee, and other Chinese guests.

Present were Comrade Yon Hyong-muk, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and premier of the Administration Council; Comrade Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, vice premier and foreign minister; Comrade Choe Kwang, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and chief of general staff of the Korean People's Army; Comrade Kang Hui-won, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice premier; Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the WPK Central Committee; Chong Chun-ki; Chong Song-nam; Yun Ki-chong; Kim Hak-suk, and other personages concerned.

In the banquet, Comrade Choe Kwang made a speech. He said that the signing of the DPRK-PRC Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance was a historic event that placed the DPRK-PRC friendship, which was forged with blood, on the firm legal basis and strengthened and developed it into a new higher stage. He pointed out that for the past 30 years, the treaty made a great contribution to accelerating the cause of socialist construction in the two countries and for defending peace in Asia and in the world.

The Korea-China friendship, which was provided by the leaders of the two countries and has been further consolidated by the treaty, is an unbreakable militant friendship between class brothers who have always shared life and death, the bitter and the sweet.

He said that in particular, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's visit to China and the visits to our country by respected Comrade General Secretary Jiang Zemin and Comrade Premier Li Peng, which took place in recent years, were an important occasion for further consolidating and developing the traditional Korea-China friendship.

Pointing out that today the two countries are building socialism confronting the imperialists' strategy of peaceful transition, he said it is very important for our two countries which are advancing under the banner of socialism to unite closely with each other and take concerted action under the situation in which the anti-socialist offensive of the imperialists are becoming all the more vicious.

Our people will make all efforts in the future, as in the past, to consolidate and develop the unbreakable Korea-China friendship, which was forged with blood amid common struggle against the imperialists, and overcame various trials of history, generation after generation.

He stated that the PRC has greatly contributed to the cause of peace in Asia and the world and its international prestige is increasing still higher as it has maintained an independent and peaceloving foreign policy.

He said that we extend full support and solidarity for the endeavors of the Chinese Government and people to reunify their country according to the conception of one country and two systems.

Next, Ambassador Zheng Yi made a speech.

He said that the PRC-DPRK Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance signed 30 years ago served as a very important milestone in history of PRC-DPRK friendship, and opened a new chapter in friendship and cooperative relations between the two countries.

He stressed that for the past 30 years, the people of two countries helped each other and learned from each other in many fields including politics, economy, science, technology and culture, based on the spirit of the treatment. Thus, they comprehensively expanded and strengthened friendship and cooperative relations, and vigorously pushed ahead with the socialist revolution and socialist construction.

He pointed out that the history of brilliant Sino-Korea friendship over 30 years since the signing of the treaty is a history which has developed in the basic interests of the two countries and two peoples.

The development of Sino-Korea friendly relations into a new higher stage cannot be thought of without warm benevolence and leadership of the leaders of two countries and the flower of Sino-Korea friendship will more beautifully bloom under new historic conditions.

Stressing that China and Korea are the socialist countries and carrying out together the great historic task of building and consolidating socialism, he said that the imperialists are maneuvering to overthrow all socialist countries while implementing the strategy for peaceful transition against the socialist countries. In this grim period, it is all the more necessary for our two countries to strengthen solidarity, support one another and defend the socialist system.

He said the Chinese people will in the future, too, exert every conceivable effort to support the socialist revolution and construction of Korea and the Korean people's just cause of the independent and peaceful reunification of their country.

He stressed he firmly believes that no matter what international storm may blow, the great Sino-Korea friendship, which is based on Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, will develop generation after generation.

The participants at the banquet toasted to everlasting militant friendship and unity between the Korean and Chinese people; to good health and long life of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song; to good health and long life of dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il; to good health and long life of respected Comrades Deng Xiaoping, Jiang Zemin, Yang Shangkun and Li Peng.

Kaesong WPK Committee Marks PRC Treaty

SK1207051991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0443 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 12 (KCNA)—The Kaesong Municipal Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], the Kaesong Municipal Administration and Economic Guidance Committee and the Military Armistice Commission (MAC) gave a reception Thursday morning on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Korea-China Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance.

The members of the delegation of the Chinese People's Volunteers of the Korean-Chinese side to the MAC were invited to the reception.

Present on the occasion were Yi Pyong-yong, secretary of the Kaesong Municipal Committee of the WPK, Hong Ae-hui, vice-chairman of the Kaesong Municipal Administration and Economic Guidance Committee, other officials concerned and the members of our side to the MAC.

Speeches were made at the reception which proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Government Sends 20,000 Tons of Cement to PRC

SK1307103591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1016 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 13 (KCNA)—The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea decided to send 20,000 tons of cement free as relief material to the Government of the People's Republic of China in connection with flood damages in China.

Japanese Group Concludes Visit on Normalization

SK1407091291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0853 GMT 14 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 14 (KCNA)—Eiji Yamamoto, chief secretary of the Northeast Asia Section of the Asia Department of the Japanese Foreign Ministry, and Teruo Komaki, director of the Tendency Analysis Department of the Asian Institute of Developing Economics, paid a visit to our country over July 9-13 to discuss the matter of resuming the fourth round of the inter-governmental full-dress talks for the normalization of DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations.

A "compromise" raised by the Japanese Government was discussed between the delegation dispatched by the Japanese Foreign Ministry and officials concerned of the DPRK Foreign Ministry.

Gathering Marks Anniversary of USSR Treaty

SK1207104291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1029 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 12 (KCNA)—The Foreign Ministry arranged a friendship gathering on July 11 to mark the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Korean-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance.

Invited to the gathering were Soviet Ambassador to Korea Alexandr Kapto and his embassy officials.

Vice-minister of Foreign Affairs Yi In-kyu and other officials concerned were present.

The gathering proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Visitors From Soviet Union, Portugal Reported

SK1207104491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 12 (KCNA)—Dr. Luis Manuel de Araujo, chairman of the Portuguese Central Committee for the Study of Kimilsungism, arrived here today by plane.

Meanwhile, a home-visiting group of the Soviet Committee for the Promotion of Korea's Reunification, a home-visiting group of Koreans in the Soviet Union and a home-visiting group of Korean students in the Soviet Union arrived here Thursday by air.

Soviet Fatherland Visiting Group Departs 11 Jul

SK1507085491 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] A delegation of the Committee for Supporting the Peaceful Reunification of Korea in Sakhalin, the USSR, led by Kwon Chon-sik, chairman of its committee, and a fatherland visiting group of the Koreans residing in the USSR led by (Choe Yubovi) and Kim Pu-hyon left Pyongyang today by plane.

They were met by officials concerned at the airport.

Meeting Marks Month of Solidarity With Cuba

SK1207064491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0506 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 12 (KCNA)—The inaugural meeting of the month of solidarity with the Cuban people was held at the Korea-Cuba friendship Yongsong meat processing plant on July 11 to mark the 38th anniversary of the July 26 armed uprising of the Cuban people.

In his speech at the meeting, Kim Chin-pom, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and vice-chairman of the Korea-Cuba Solidarity Committee, said:

The attack of the Cuban revolutionaries on the Moncada barracks 38 years ago was a historic event which marked the origin of the Cuban revolution.

The Cuban people is a heroic people who won the victory of the revolution through a bloody armed struggle and have advanced the revolution and construction under very difficult conditions with arms in one hand and a sickle and hammer in the other.

The Cuban people are confidently advancing along the road of socialism, closely rallied behind the Communist Party of Cuba headed by Comrade Fidel Castro.

We bitterly denounce the U.S. imperialists' moves against socialist Cuba.

In his speech, Cuban Ambassador to Korea Juan Jose Leon Vega said:

The Korean people defeated the Yankee imperialists and their stooges through a heroic struggle and built a new Korea on debris after the ceasefire under the guidance of their great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the Workers' Party of Korea.

Today, the Cuban and Korean peoples are defending the banner of socialism in the Western and Eastern Hemispheres of the earth. The Cuban people will adhere to the principle of supporting the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

Cuba expresses support to the wise decision of the DPRK to join the United Nations. Korea and Cuba will win the final victory as they have great parties and great peoples.

Officials at Meeting Honoring Kim Chong-il Work

SK1207153491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1511 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 12 (KCNA)—A national meeting was held at the Central Youth Hall today to mark the tenth anniversary of the publication of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's historic work "On Further Strengthening Party Guidance of the Work With Youth and Children."

In this work published on July 13, 1981, he scientifically reviewed the victorious course covered by the Korean Communist Youth Movement for a long time of more than half a century under the wise guidance of the great leader President Kim Il-song and perfectly clarified the need to further strengthen the party guidance of the work with youth and children as required by the developing reality and the tasks and ways for this.

At the meeting, Kim Chung-nin, secretary of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea, made a report.

The reporter noted that in the work, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il laid main stress on the need to direct particular efforts to building up the ranks of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea and strengthening ideological education of the youth, train them to be dependable builders of socialism and communism and firmly prepare them for the defence of the country.

Underlining the significance of the work, the reporter said it provided an ideological and theoretical weapon that the revolutionary parties of the working class should firmly maintain in the guidance of the work with youth and children and the youth movement.

He said that, true to the noble intention of our party, the party guidance of the work with youth and children should be further strengthened and all of the rising generation be firmly prepared to be loyal and filial sons and daughters with a firm revolutionary outlook on the leader, dependable successors to the socialist cause and true young vanguards of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Present at the meeting were Kye Ung-tae member of the political bureau and secretary of the C.C., the Workers' Party of Korea, and officials concerned.

Chemical Industry in South Hamgyong Viewed

SK1207151691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1500 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 12 (Kcna)—The chemical industry is a leading domain of the industries of South Hamgyong Province.

The province accounts for more than a half of the chemical industrial output value of the nation.

The Hamhung area is the centre of the chemical industry of the province producing vinalon, chemical fertilizers, carbide, agricultural chemicals, synthetic resin, synthetic rubber, dyes, and basic chemical goods.

The February 8 Vinalon Complex, the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex, the Hungnam Pharmaceutic Factory and minor chemical factories are located in this area.

These factories produce more than 1,000 kinds of chemical goods in large quantities.

The chemical industry of the province has made a radical development since the vinalon industry relying on limestone and anthracite abundant in the country was built in the 1960s.

The vinalon factory which was commissioned in 1961 has been reconstructed and expanded constantly and is producing more than 180 kinds of chemical goods including 50,000 tons of vinalon, 50,000 tons of vinyl chloride, caustic soda, sodium carbonate, and dyes.

Before the liberation of the country (August 1945), no other fertilizer than ammonium sulphate was produced. But now various chemical fertilizers such as urea fertilizer, ammonium nitrate, superphosphate of lime and micronutrient fertilizer are being turned out.

In the middle of the 1960s, the industry of ammonia synthesis by gasified anthracite was founded, opening a new phase of the fertilizer industry.

Over the last three decades, the production of fertilizers grew 2.5 times at the Hungnam fertilizer complex.

The Hamhung area is producing in large quantities sulfuric acid, hydrochloric acid, nitric acid, acetic acid, paint, lacquer, etc.

Many minor chemical factories have been built along with large-scale ones so as to produce not only basic chemical goods but also various raw chemical material and subsidiary medicines which are not much in demand.

Hundreds of kinds of chemical goods are produced at chemical shops and branch shops at city, county and central factories and enterprises in the province.

Second-Stage Pyongyang Tramway Project Begins

SK1307050891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0433 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 13 (KCNA)—The second-stage tramway project started in Pyongyang, the capital of the DPRK, on July 12.

The second-stage project is divided into two sections.

One section extends 12 kilometres from the Munsu parking ground in east Pyongyang to Tosong (area near the east Pyongyang thermal power station) in Yaknang district through Chongnyon Street and Tongil Street now under construction.

The other section extends 14 kilometres from the Taedong Bridge to the Songsan parking ground in Mangyongdae through the Kangan Boulevard and Chollima Street (second-stage).

Unlike in the first-stage project, the track will be laid along either sides of the roads in the second-stage project.

The second-stage project will be completed in a short period.

Pyongyang has already a tramway in the 20 odd kilometre section from Songsan in Mangyongdae to Songsin in east Pyongyang. This tramway plays a big part in passenger transport.

The first-stage project started at the end of November, 1990, and was completed early in April 1991.

The ring-shape tramway project will be undertaken at the next stage.

KCNA Review of 13 Jul Pyongyang Press

SK1307055391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0454 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang July 13 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries a message to Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], from Comrade Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, in reply to his message of greetings sent to the latter on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the CPC founding.

Carried in the daily is a letter of thanks to the great leader President Kim Il-song from Richard Adams, chairman of the Society of Korean War Veterans, for the transfer of the remains of eleven U.S. soldiers.

The daily says President Kim Il-song has given wise guidance to consistently enhance the role of the party cells, the basic oganisations of our party. MINJU CHOSON devotes one whole page to an article headlined "Boundlessly Broad Bosom" dealing with the benevolent loving care shown by President Kim Il-song for Rev. Son Chong-to who actively helped him in his early revolutionary activities over 60 years ago, and Son Won-tae, his son residing in the United States who was a member of the Association of Korean Children in Jilin, and his wife.

"Our Socialism for the People Will Not Perish", a work of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, is being studied and disseminated in many countries, says the press.

NODONG SINMUN gives an account of a national meeting held here to mark the tenth anniversary of the publication of Comrade Kim Chong-il's work "On Further Strengthening Party Guidance of the Work With Youth and Children".

Thanks of the C.C., Workers' Party of Korea were conveyed to medical workers of the Pyongsong Polyclinic, South Pyongan Province, who are rendering good medical services and help to coal miners, reports the daily.

Appearing in the daily is news that a message came to the C.C., the WPK from P.V. Narasimha Rao, chairman of the Indian National Congress (I), in reply to its message of greetings sent to him on his 70th birthday.

NODONG SINMUN comes out with an editorial calling for carrying through the motto "Let the whole party go among the masses!" and MINJU CHOSON an editorial headlined "Officials of State and Economic Organs Should More Firmly Arm Themselves With Chuche-Based Theory of Socialist Economic Management Advanced by Our Party".

It is reported in the press that a meeting of builders was held to finish the second-stage tramway project in Pyongyang ahead of schedule and thoroughgoing measures are being taken in rural communities to prevent damages by storm.

NODONG SINMUN informs the readers that an agreement on the development of friendly and cooperative relations between the Workers' Party of Korea and the Socialist Party of Turkey was signed in Ankara.

Carried in the press is a telephone message sent by Yun Ki-pok, chairman of the North side's headquarters of the Pan-Korean Alliance for National Reunification, to Choe Ho-chung, "deputy prime minister and minister of Unification Board" of South Korea, as regards the participation of our side's delegation in the Seoul preparatory meeting for the second pan-national rally on August 18.

NODONG SINMUN prints a statement issued to the press by Choe Hyon-tok, chairman of the Korean Student Committee, with regard to the participation in the August 15 grand reunification festival of students slated in Seoul.

Papers report that the Foreign Ministry arranged a friendship gathering on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Korean-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Coopration and Mutual Assistance.

NODONG SINMUN gives an account of information No. 596 issued by the secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland denouncing the suppression of the anti-reunification democratic forces of South Korea by the No Tae-u ruling group.

Papers carry a statement published by the C.C., the Korean Christians Federation demanding an immediate release of coed Yim Su-kyong, Father Mun Kyu-hyon and other visitors to the North and patriotic students.

NODONG SINMUN runs a commentary lambasting the South Korean authorities for vociferating about a peace agreement as if they were a "direct partner" of the Armistice Agreement and an article laying bare the falsity of the "democracy" advertised by No Tae-u

The paper reports that Chondaehyop issued a statement in protest against the authorities' arrest of its chairman Kim Chong-sik and South Korean teachers involved in publishing the declaration on the situation issued a statement in demand of a stop to the authorities' suppression.

The Thai police issued a warrant of arrest on Mun Sonmyong, chief of the "Unification Church" of South Korea, and his wife, according to papers.

It is reported in NODONG SINMUN that meetings for solidarity with the Korean people were held in different countries and the command of the Syrian People's Army published a statement on the month of anti-U.S. joint struggle (June 25-July 27).

Papers introduce an article carried by the Japanese ASAHI JOURNAL under the title "North Korea and 'Nuclear Inspection'."

NODONG SINMUN runs an article entitled "Voices of Anti-Nuke Solidarity Continue Ringing Aloud" on the lapse of one month since the joint statement of the DPRK political parties and public organisations on the removal of nuclear danger from the Korean peninsula was issued.

Papers report that Comrade Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, inspected flood-hit areas including Zhejiang and Jiangsu Provinces and Shanghai, a meeting was held in Mongolia to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the people's revolution and the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh, the Soviet Union, has deteriorated.

KCNA Review of 15 Jul NODONG SINMUN

SK1507074391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0608 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 15 (KCNA) - NODONG SINMUN today carries photo-accompanied report that the great leader President Kim Il-song received the delegation of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Counties and the Sino-Korean Friendship Association. The delegation presented the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il with a gift, according to the paper. Appearing in it is a solidarity message to president Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from Blaise Compaore president and head of government of Burkina Faso, on the occasion of the month of international solidarity with the Korean people.

It deals with seminars on Comrade Kim Chong-il's work "Our Socialism for the People Will Not Perish" held abroad. Korean educational workers and scientists in Japan and Korean students studying at Japanese schools met in Osaka to express thanks to Marshal Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il for the 118th installment of educational aid fund and stipends sent to them, according to the daily.

It informs that thanks of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers Party of Korea was conveyed to the teachers and students of Mukchon senior middle school in Unpa County, North Hwanghae Province, who are active in helping railways.

The paper introduces experiences of different party organizations in strengthening education in the chuche idea, the monolithic thought of our party.

A dynamic drive to attain the title of active workteam in increased production and economy is going on briskly at industrial establishments of Korea, says the paper.

It observes the 4th anniversary of the establishment of the factory college a studying-while-working college of our own style. Seen in the daily is a statement issued to the press by Pak Song-chol, chairman of the North side's preparatory committee for the political consultative conference for national reunification, on the problem of holding a political consultative conference for national reunification to be attended by delegates from authorities, political parties and organizations of the North and the South on the occasion of the 46th anniversary of the August 15 liberation.

The Secretary General of the C.C., the Party of Union for National Progress of Burundi, met a DPRK Foreign Ministry delegation and the DPRK ambassador to Mauritius paid a farewell call to the governor-general of this country the paper reports. According to it, the Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland issued its information No. 597 to denounce the South Korean authorities for detaining and persecuting bereaved families of patriotic martyrs including the father of martyr Kang Kyong-tae.

Highlighted in the paper are reports that students of Hanyang University in Seoul staged a demonstration in demand of the release of Kim Chong-ok, chairman of the National Council of Student Representatives, some students attacked the Pusan branch of the "security planning board" and the Amnesty International exposed the condition of human rights in South Korea.

The paper comments on the "results of investigation" faked up by the South Korean authorities after carrying out an "investigation", alleging that the will of Kim Ki-sol, director of the social affairs department of the Coalition for National Democratic Movement (Chonminnyon), who set himself aflame in self-immolation in demand of the withdrawal of the present "regime", was written by another person.

An article of the paper brings to light the cruel and ferocious nature of the white bone group, a plainclothed police group of the notorious riot police, which brought young people to death in South Korea.

On the occasion of the month of anti-U.S. joint struggle (June 25-July 27), the World Federation of Trade Unions and foreign figures issued press statements and meetings and other functions took place in different countries in demand of the withdrawal of the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea, says the paper.

Given in the paper is an account of starting ceremonies of the "international solidarity march for supporting Korea's reunification" held in different countries.

The paper runs a commentary slamming the far-fetched assertion of the U.S. authorities that "nuclear inspection" of the DPRK and the problem of the U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea are different matters.

The paper informs the readers that the Chinese defence minister stressed it is necessary to make greater efforts for the modernization of the national defence of China, the Egyptian foreign minister denounced Israel for expanding nuclear potentials and Bush endorsed the list of command and control targets for a strike at Iraq.

The paper deals with the importance of the recently held conference of the African National Congress of South Africa.

South Korea

Premier Notifies North of Acceptance of Talks

SK1307024891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0234 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 13 (YONHAP)—South Korea officially notified North Korea on Saturday that it was willing to resume their prime ministerial talks on Aug. 27 in Pyongyang.

Seoul accepted Pyongyang's offer in a telephone message from Southern Prime Minister Chong Won-sik to his Northern counterpart Yon Hyong-muk. Yon offered Thursday to reopen the talks North Korea unilaterally suspended early this year.

Accepting Yon's offer, Chong proposed a liaison officers meeting to prepare for the talks at the truce village of Panmunjom on July 19.

"It is fortunate, I think, that your side complied with our demand, though it was a little late, to resume the fourth round of the South-North Korean high-level talks which your side called off," Chong said in his message.

North Korea called off the fourth round of talks days before they were to open in Pyongyang on Feb. 25 to protest the annual Seoul- Washington "Team Spirit" joint military exercise.

North Said To Possess 1,000 Tons of Warheads

SK1507120591 Seoul YONHAP in English 1147 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 15 (YONHAP)—North Korea has recently formed a Scud brigade and has already produced more than 1,000 tons of chemical warheads, the South Korean Defense Ministry reported to the National Assembly Monday.

The ministry, in a report to the assembly's National Defense Committee, said North Korea showed no signs of stopping its nuclear development even after it submitted an application for United Nations membership.

North Korea is building Nodong-1, Scud missiles with a range of 1,000 km, and is actively seeking to increase imports of Il-76. It has already produced AN-2 aircraft, the ministry said.

While the United States has revised its strategy for Northeast Asia, particularly the Korean peninsula, to the effect of cutting the American troops in the region by 25 percent by 1995, the ministry said, China is likely to continue military support for North Korea.

The U.S. forces will gradually reduce its role in South Korea beginning with a cutback of 7,000 by the end of 1992 and through second-and third-phase withdrawals. There are some 43,000 American troops in South Korea under the 1953 mutual defense treaty.

South Korea's share of defense burden will more than double to 400 million U.S. dollars from this year's 150 million dollars, the report said.

South Korea and the United States will initial the Wartime Host Nation Support (WHNS) sometime this month and will officially sign it in the annual security consultative meeting in November, according to the report.

The report predicted peace on the Korean peninsula might be endangered in the next four to five years, for all such positive developments as South and North Korea's moves to join the United Nations and to expand dialogue and exchanges, and North Korea's decision to sign the safeguards accord of the international atomic energy agency.

There are such negative points to be considered as continuous Chinese and Soviet military support for North Korea, reduction and change of role of U.S. forces in South Korea and North Korea's military buildup, the report cited.

It said defense spending should be maintained at 4.5 percent of the gross national product to secure enough deterrence. A total of 19 trillion won should be invested to increase the nation's war capability from 1992-96, it added.

South To Submit UN Application 'Around' 2 Aug

SK1307104591 Seoul YONHAP in English 1029 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 13 (YONHAP)—South Korea will submit an application for U.N. membership to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar around Aug. 2, an official source said Saturday.

The Foreign Ministry is to set the date for the application and finalize other necessary precedures after consulting Ambassador No Chang-hui, chief of the South Korean mission at the U.N. Headquarters, who is due to return to Seoul Sunday for a brief home visit.

"There is no reason to delay the application, since North Korea offered it on Monday before us," a government official said. "It is likely the U.N. Security Council will be convened by the end of the second week of next month, one week earlier than usual to consider the two Koreas' applications."

Under regulations of the U.N. General Assembly and Security Council, South Korea must file its application not later than Aug. 9 to have its application handled on the opening day of the 46th General Assembly, Sept. 17.

"North Korea did not submit its application directly to Secretary-General de Cuellar. But we, considering its historic significance, will let Ambassador No deliver the application and a document certifying the National Assembly's acceptance of the U.N. Charter directly to de Cuellar," the official said.

North Korea's application was sent in the name of Deputy Premier Kim Yong-nam, but the South Korean [application] will bear President No Tae-u's signature, he added.

President No Plans To Deliver Speech at UN

SK1307081391 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 13 Jul 91 p1

[Text] As the head of state of a member country of the United Nations, President No Tae-u will give a keynote speech at the UN General Assembly on the morning of 24 September. It has been learned that this schedule was finally fixed.

President No Tae-u will, in his keynote speech, propose a direction for the peaceful and democratic settlement of the reunification of the Korean peninsula based on the universal principles of peaceful settlements in international conflicts. In addition, he plans to appeal to the international communities, including the United Nations, to seek active support from them so that a new order of peace and reconciliation can be built in Northeast Asia.

According to this, President No Tae-u will leave for New York on 22 September, the Korean Thanksgiving Day. On 23 September, a day before he makes a keynote speech at the UN General Assembly, President No Tae-u will have summit talks with U.S. President George Bush in New York and discuss matters of coordination of respective polices toward North Korea and the Korean peninsula after the North-South's simultaneous admission to the United Nations.

If Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu come to New York to make keynote speeches at the UN General Assembly at the same time, President No plans to have talks with them to mainly discuss matters of North Korea opening up and establishing diplomatic ties with Japan. At this time, it is still uncertain whether Gorbachev and Kaifu will participate in the UN General Assembly, although they are scheduled to give keynote speeches on the same day as President No's speech on 24 September.

Besides this, President No will have a summit talks with Malaysian Prime Minister Mohamad Mahathir to discuss the issue of building a new cooperative body in the Asia-Pacific region on the basis of the Asia-Pacific Economic Conference Cabinet meeting. During the General Assembly, he will also meet with heads of other nations who are to participate in the UN General Assembly. It is the government's policy that it should use the United Nation as a major arena to promote its diplomacy with other countries.

Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok will leave for New York a few days before President No and make a speech on accepting the UN resolution on South Korea's admission. He will also seek to contact his North Korean counterpart at the United Nations before or after 17 September, the day which the member countries of the United Nations vote for North Korea's and South Korea's UN admission.

Right after the UN resolution on North Korea's and South Korea's admission on 17 September, the North and South are supposed to respectively make speeches on accepting it.

On behalf of the North side, Kim Yong-nam, vice premier and foreign minister, is likely to make a speech on accepting the UN resolution.

In addition, President No Tae-u will leave New York on the afternoon of 25 September and fly to Mexico for a two-day state visit.

National Assembly Unimously Approves UN Charter

SK1307060891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0543 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 13 (OANA-YONHAP)—The South Korean National Assembly unanimously passed a bill Saturday accepting the U.N. Charter, clearing the way for the government to submit an application for admission to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar early next month.

It is expected that South and North Korea will be admitted on Sept. 17, when the 46th U.N. General Assembly opens.

North Korea submitted its application on July 8.

Prior to the vote, ruling and opposition party leaders spoke in support of the bill. They said joint entry into the United Nations was an auspicious event that would restore peace on the Korean peninsula and advance unification of the Korean peninsula.

Kim Yong-sam, executive chairman of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, said the realization of simultaneous entry by the two Koreas indicated that the Korean peninsula had gone from an era of confrontation to an era of co-existence and was moving toward unification.

"We will use U.N. entry to become a central country in the international community," Kim said in a speech televised live nationwide. "We should take it as a lesson of history that East and West Germany used their simultaneous entry as the starting point for unification."

Simultaneous entry by South and North Korea was a victory of prudent diplomacy, he said, and normalizing relations with the Soviet Union and East European countries and joining the United Nations proved South Korea was going in the right direction.

Kim Tae-chung, president of the main opposition New Democratic Party, said that with simultaneous U.N. entry the South should make a fundamental change in its policy toward the North.

U.N. entrance by both Koreas consolidated peace on the Korean peninsula, so the government should repeal the National Security Law and remove "antiunification forces within the government," Kim said.

He urged North Korea to revise the regulations of the Workers (Communist) Party that call for communization of the entire peninsula and to change its criminal code.

The South should display the superiority of its system to the North by realizing democratization, he said.

The government should consider letting students and dissidents visit North Korea unconditionally, guaranteeing the freedom to study about North Korea, handling unification issues without partisanship, exchanging party delegates with North Korea and allowing South Koreans to tune in to North Korean radio and television, Kim said.

The opposition leader said he would visit North Korea if the government wanted him to and if it would help bring unification.

He warned the government to go slow in pursuing unification, saying that trying to absorb North Korea would give hard-liners in the North more power and heighten the tensions on the Korean peninsula.

Kim reminded the Assembly that his unification formula—two independent governments in one confederation, one confederation and two autonomous governments and one government under one state—was based on the principles of peaceful co-existence, peaceful exchange and peaceful unification.

Unification should be realized "with full agreement by South and North Korea," Kim said, adding that all unification formulas should be referred to the Assembly and a national referendum.

UN Envoy Returns To Discuss Entry Application

SK1507014891 Seoul YONHAP in English 2335 GMT 14 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 15 (YONHAP) - Amb. [Ambassador] No Chang-hui, chief of the South Korean permanent mission to the United Nations, said Sunday North Korea voiced hope both Koreas' bid to join the United Nations will be handled as a single item in the world body.

No said applications for entering the United Nations by Seoul and Pyongyang will be treated as a single item and that all relevant procedures will be completed by the U.N. Security Council not later than Aug. 15.

The ambassador made the remarks after returning home to consult with the government on Seoul's application for U.N. membership early next month.

North-South 'Grand Unification Gala' Proposed

SK1507021491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0138 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 15 (OANA-YONHAP)—The South Korean Government proposed Monday holding "a joint South-North grand unification gala" next month with a cross-country pilgrimage, unification symposiums, prayer meetings and cultural festivities.

The gala, timed symbolically with the 46th anniversary of Korean liberation from 35 years of Japanese colonial rule, would be participated by 2,000 people, including overseas Koreans, it said.

The proposal, made in a statement by vice premier and National Unification Minister Choe Ho-chung, suggested five to seven working-level officials from Seoul and Pyongyang meet July 26-30 at the truce village of Panmunjom to discuss the details.

Choe also urged reunions of families separated during the 1950-1953 Korean war around Chusok (the Harvest Moon Festival) in September for people aged 70 or over.

The gala proposal called for a march from Mt. Paektu at the northern tip of North Korea to Mt. Halla on the southernmost island of Cheju, to be preceded and followed by Liberation Day (Aug. 15) celebrations and cultural festivities.

On July 6, President No Tae-u announced at the end of state visits to Washington and Ottawa that the government would open up to greater inter-Korean exchanges.

No specifically mentioned joint celebration of Liberation Day and included students and dissidents in the activities. He also accepted a North Korean proposal for a joint unification seminar and cross-border pilgrimage.

The president made a similar proposal on July 20 last year for "the grand inter-Korean exchanges of people."

That proposal was scrapped completely when negotiations broke down because Pyongyang demanded private-only representation and Seoul insisted the government be the official organizing and negotiating channel.

Choe's proposal calls for South and North Korean participants to jointly celebrate Aug. 15 liberation day at the border village of Panmunjom and cross into the North for the first segment of a symposium on national unification in Pyongyang on Aug. 17.

It also calls for holding a unification ceremony on Mt. Paektu on Aug. 20 and start the march South. The second segment of the seminar will be held in Seoul on Aug. 24, after which the participants will continue southward for the second unification ceremony on Mt. Halla on Aug. 28.

They will march back to Panmunjom for cultural festivities on Aug. 31, ending the national event, according to the proposal.

Choe recommended that the 2,000 participants include people from all walks of life, including Koreans living abroad. The group would include about 50 people for the unification seminar, 400 from social organizations, 250 students and dissidents and 100 support personnel.

He said: "We...believe that these gala events should be privately organized with the help, support and guarantee of both governments.

"We expect that an era of national conciliation and cooperation will be opened through the successful staging of the gala events and through the free visits to the North of elderly people and that these activities will help advance the day of unification."

'Text' of Proposal

SK1507022291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0156 GMT 15 Jul 91

["Text of Seoul's Proposal to Pyongyang on Unification Gala"—YONHAP headline]

[Text] Seoul, July 15 (YONHAP)—August 15, 1945 certainly will go down in our history as a day of jubilation as it was that very day that our nation's independence was restored. On the other hand, it also marked the beginning of a dark history of national division and fratricide. This August 15 is the 46th anniversary of Liberation Day. To our sorrow, however, we have yet to achieve national unification.

The international community today is washed with a tide of reconciliation and openness that brought down the cold war regime. It is the ardent desire of our 70 million compatriots, therefore, to make best use of this global environment to ease tension and advance reconciliation, thus speeding unification.

With this in mind and in hope that North Korea will react positively, we propose to co-sponsor with the North a grand unification gala over 16 nights and 17 days from August 15 to 31 in celebration of Liberation Day. We believe it is feasible for both the South and the North to jointly sponsor the grand unification gala beginning with a memorial event on August 15 in Panmunjom in commemoration of Liberation Day and followed by a cross-country pilgrimage, unification symposiums to be held in Seoul and Pyongyang alternately, unification prayer meetings on the summits of Mt. Paektu and Mt. Halla and lastly a unification cultural festival to be held in the joint security area of Panmunjom on August 31, featuring the sampling of food and beverages from different regions of Korea as well as traditional arts.

We believe it would be practicable for about 2,000 people from the South and the North and the Korean communities abroad to participate in the proposed grand unification gala. About 1,000 would represent each of the two parts of Korea.

In particular, in the unification symposiums to be held alternately in Seoul and Pyongyang, it would be appropriate to have 50 persons from each of the divided halves participate, including politicians, scholars, journalists and overseas compatriots.

We also believe that these gala events should be privately organized with the help, support and guarantee of both governments. To that end, we propose that each side form a gala preparation committee, and that five to seven working-level representatives from each committee meet at Panmunjom from July 26 to 30 to work out arrangements for the gala events. Inasmuch as this proposal, in fact, accommodates the proposals made earlier by the North, we believe that they will not find it difficult to accept.

Furthermore, we believe that the North will share our view that we should no longer ignore the pain of the 10 million people separated from their relatives due to the division of the land. In view of the fact that no fewer than 61,355 applications were submitted last year to visit relatives in the North following our proposal for grand exchanges of people, we urge that North to at least allow free visits to the North of those aged over 70 to meet their relatives.

We expect that an era of national conciliation and cooperation will be opened through the successful staging of the gala events and through the free visits to the North of elderly people and that these activities will help advance the day of unification.

More Details on Proposal

SK1507051091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0439 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 15 (YONHAP)—Following are details of South Korean Deputy Prime Minister Choe Ho-chung's proposal for a joint South-North Korean "grand unification gala," issued Monday.

I. Joint Celebrations of Liberation Day

date: Aug. 15, 1991

site: appropriate point in the joint security area of the truce village of Panmunjom

participants: members of the cross-country pilgrimage

II. Cross-Country Pilgrimage

period: Aug. 15-31 (Aug. 15-23 in North Korea and Aug. 23-31 in South Korea)

participants: 2,000 people

each 1,000-member team be composed of
50 scholars and experts to take part in unification symposiums,
400 representatives of social organizations,
250 individual citizens including college students,
100 overseas Koreans,
100 journalists, and
100 administrative support personnel.

Route: northern area:
Panmunjom-Kaesong-Pyongyang-Mt.Paektu-Panmunjom

southern area:
Panmunjom-Seoul-Taejon-Taegu-Pusan-Mt.

Halla-Mokpo-Kwangju-Chonju-Taejon-Seoul-Panmunjom

III. Unification Symposiums

date and site:

first unification symposium: Aug. 17 (Pyongyang)

second unification symposium: Aug. 24 (Seoul)

participants: 50-member teams from the South and North includes politicians, scholars, journalists and overseas Koreans.

IV. Unification Prayer Meetings

date and site:

first meeting: Aug. 20 (Mt. Paektu)

second meeting: Aug. 24 (Mt. Halla)

participants: members of the cross-country pilgrimage

V. Culture Unification Festival

date: Aug. 31

site: appropriate point in the joint security area at

Panmunjom

participants: members of the cross-country pilgrimage

content: feast on food and beverages from the South and North

performance of traditional arts

Minister Urges Keeping Armistice Agreement

SK1507094591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0929 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 15 (YONHAP)—South Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok said Monday that the existing Korean Armistice Agreement should remain intact until a permanent peace device has been arranged for its replacement.

Speaking in the National Assembly foreign affairs and National Unification Committee, Yi said the peace device was expected to be settled if South and North Korea concluded an agreement on the basic bilateral relations through mutual dialogue.

Minister Yi also stressed that the "real parties concerned" involving the armistice agreement were none other than South and North Korea and that the solution of the military problems on the Korean peninsula rested with the two Koreas.

Touching on nuclear issues, the top foreign policy maker said, "in dealing with the issue of denuclearizing the Korean peninsula, particularities of the region should be taken into consideration." He added that any decision on it should be made on full agreement among the parties concerned.

He enumerated easing of tension and buildup of confidence in political and military areas between South and North Korea as prerequisite conditions to the reduction of armament and military spending in the Korean peninsula.

Meeting To Arrange Pannational Rally Cancelled

SK1307083591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0704 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 13 (YONHAP)—A dissident group announced Saturday it had scrapped a meeting in Seoul next week to arrange a pan-national rally because its members were under arrest or wanted by the police. The meeting has been banned by the government.

"We decided to postpone the July 18 conference indefinitely because our staffers were arrested or are wanted and the government will not guarantee the safety of the ethnic Korean representatives," a spokesman for Pomminnyon, the national alliance for fatherland reunification, told a news conference.

Pomminnyon had notified the national unification board of the decision, he said.

The first organizing meeting was held in Berlin last month. It was attended by members of South Korean dissident groups, by delegates from North Korea and by foreign nationals of Korean ancestry.

Earlier in the week, North Korea said it would send five representatives and 10 reporters to the Seoul meeting.

South Korea has banned the meeting, saying the organizers do not represent the people of the South and North Korea's purpose is to subvert the South.

Inter-Korean Trade Soars '20-Fold' Jan-May 1991

SK1507014691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0108 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 15 (YONHAP)—Indirect inter-Korean trade soared nearly 20-fold to 78.247 million U.S. dollars in January-May over the same months last year, a National Unification Board source said Monday.

South Korea bought 65.677 million dollars of North Korean products through intermediates during the period, and sold 12.57 million dollars worth to North Korea, the source said.

Indirect two-way trade totaled 1,037,000 dollars in 1988, when the government first permitted private firms to introduce North Korean products, 22.304 million dollars in 1989 and 25.61 million dollars in 1990.

South-North inter-Korean trade may top 100 million dollars this year as importation of North Korean goods, including fisheries products, has increased sharply, the source said.

The South imported 20,582,000 dollars of North Korean steel in January-May, 18,008,000 dollars of zinc lump, 9,907,000 dollars of fisheries products such as squid and Alaskan pollack, 4,050,000 dollars of anthracite and 3,356,000 dollars of gold.

The North imported 6.25 million dollars of high-density polyethylene, 1,809,000 dollars of woven goods, 1,401,000 dollars of high-sulphur light oil and 760,000 dollars of soap.

Government May Revive Rice Deal With North

SK1307085391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0653 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 13 (YONHAP)—South Korea may try to revive a deal with North Korea to barter rice for cement and coal, sources at the National Unification Board [NUB] said Saturday.

They said inter-ministerial consultations took place Friday on how to make the first shipment of 5,000 tons of rice as agreed earlier this year between the two sides.

It would constitute the first direct deal between the two halves of the Korean Peninsula since division in 1945.

Inter-Korean trade began in October 1988 and the total had reached 127 million dollars in 255 deals at the end of May, most of it through third countries. South Korea introduced goods worth 110 million dollars and shipped 17 million dollars of products to the North.

NUB announced in April that it had given Cheonji Trading Co. permission to ship 5,000 tons of rice to North Korea's Kumgangsan International Trade Development Co. in return for 30,000 tons of coal and 11,000 tons of cement. The companies signed contracts for the barter trade in Tokyo on March 29.

It was subsequently agreed that Cheonji would ship 5,000 tons of rice around May 7, but U.S. interference and North Korea's lack of cooperation intervened to prevent this.

The South Korean Government views the deal as an internal matter and a catalyst for inter-Korean economic exchanges, but the U.S. Rice Millers' Association publicly opposes the deal and is lobbying the U.S. Government strongly to stop it.

The American Rice Millers argue that selling North Korea rice at an artificially low price might have an adverse effect on the world rice market.

Kumgangsan did not help when it demanded that Cheonji produce a timetable for delivery of the entire 100,000 tons of rice.

Some officials here say that where the United States might have ignored 5,000 tons of rice, there was little likelihood of it looking the other way when the amount was 100,000 tons.

Other officials say Seoul and Washington may have reached an agreement regarding the rice deal during President No Tae-u's visit July 1-3, but this is unconfirmed speculation.

Premier Urges Invitation to North for Exposition

SK1507083491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0813 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 15 (YONHAP)—South Korean Prime Minister Chong Won-sik has asked the National Unification Board to look for a way to invite North Koreans to the Taejon exposition.

In a Taejon Expo Support Committee meeting at his home Monday, Chong told the Science and Technology ministry to invite Korean scientists from world-famous research institutes, colleges and universities to a seminar during the exposition.

The meeting was attended by deputy prime ministers Choe Kak-kyu and Choe Ho-chung, Finance Minister Yi Yong-man, trade and industry minister Yi Pong-so and Science and Technology Minister Kim Chin-hyon.

The Taejon show will be Aug. 7 to Nov. 7, 1993.

The committee decided that the government will increase the budget for exhibit space from 25.8 billion won to 39.7 billion won.

The Science and Technology Ministry will be responsible for the main Korean pavilion and the Trade and Industry Ministry will run an industrial technology pavilion. The Environment Agency will have an environment pavilion and the Culture Ministry a pavilion of artistic creativity. Also under consideration is a food resources pavilion for the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry.

The Unification Board earlier requested a "Korean people's pavilion," but the idea was dropped as irrelevant to the theme of the expo.

The Energy and Resources Ministry will promote resources and gas pavilions paid for by the petroleum business fund.

Through consultation with the Paris-based Bureau International Des Expositions (BIE), the government has decided to use 76,000 pyong (50 hectares) of the 273,000-pyong site for officially authorized pavilions and the rest for a science park housing other pavilions.

Plans for N-S Broadcasting Exchanges Released

SK1307101391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0956 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 13 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government has decided to form an inter-ministry working-level consultative council to draw up measures to materialize South-North exchanges of broadcasting proposed recently by President No Tae-u.

An Information Ministry official said Saturday the consultative group will be manned by over 10 director general-level officials of related ministries and headed by the vice information minister.

The council will be asked to study ways to exchange with North Korea broadcasting programs and develop broadcasting programs designed to promote the national homogeneity. Such technical problems as bilateral support in transmission technology will also be examined.

The official said the inauguration of the task force was decided as an initial follow-up to No's instruction.

He, however, denied the possibility of the government seeking to unilaterally open broadcasting to North Korea in the near future, saying, "It should be done on the basis of reciprocity and we should consider the progress of the South-North dialogue before deciding on it."

Antidumping Ruling Against U.S. Cause Friction

SK1307011791 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 13 Jul 91 p 8

[Text] A Korean anti-dumping ruling against U.S. enterprises has been causing fresh trade friction between Korea and the United States as the U.S. administration is intervening in the verdict on behalf of the business concerns involved.

Last month, the Korean Trade Commission ruled that Du Pont and Hoechst Celanese of the United States and Asahi Chemicals of Japan had dumped polyacetal resin used in plastics on the Korean market.

Based on the ruling, the Finance Ministry will soon impose punitive customs duties against the three companies.

In particular, 58.2-92.2 percent anti-dumping duties are likely to be levied against Du Pont, a powerful multinational business.

The United States is especially raising questions about the anti-dumping ruling against Du Pont.

According to the Trade-Industry Ministry, the U.S. Trade Representative has recently called upon the Korean Government to discuss the issue through its representation in Geneva.

Unless Korea and the United States settle these disputes through negotiations, it will be referred to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) for a solution.

Trade-Industry Ministry sources said that the United States wants to negotiate the case with a Korean Government delegation in Washington or Geneva.

It is generally expected that the United States will deal with not only the anti-dumping ruling against Du Pont but also even Korea's anti-dumping and also even Korea's anti-dumping system itself through the consultation.

Because of the growing protest from the United States, the Korean Government is apparently willing to lower punitive customs duties against Du Pont.

However, it is determined not to allow the United States to take issue with the anti-dumping ruling itself.

As a result, the case is likely to be forwarded to GATT for settlement.

As it takes one to two years for GATT to mediate, many business experts said that trade relations between Korea and the United States will be strained.

It is the first time that the Korean Trade Commission has made an anti-dumping ruling against a foreign business concerns marketing products in Korea since its establishment in 1987.

Under the Trade-Industry Ministry, the commission was set up, modelled after the International Trade Commission of the United States, to check unfair trade practices by both domestic and foreign enterprises.

In a recent interview with The Korea Times, its Chairman Kim Wan-wun said that his commission had ruled that Du Pont, Hoechst Celanese and Asahi Chemical dumped their polyacetal resin in Korea through a series of investigations.

The seven-member committee of the commission made the anti-dumping verdict against the three companies in a vote of four to three.

However, Du Pont has refused to accept the ruling on the grounds that there were some inappropriate procedures in the course of proceedings.

It especially argued that the split decision on the anti-dumping ruling would testify to such inappropriate procedures.

Due Pont Korea said in a recent press release that it will consider taking the issue to GATT in cooperation with Hoechst and Asahi Chemicals.

Meanwhile, U.S. enterprises have lodged 63 anti-dumping cases against Korean-made products marketed in the United States with their government.

Of the total petitions against Korean-made products, the United States has handed out anti-dumping rulings against nine.

But the Korean Government has not protested any U.S. anti-dumping rulings.

Seoul, Moscow Mayors Sign Friendship Agreement

SK1307035891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0251 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 13 (YONHAP)—The mayors of Seoul and Moscow signed an agreement on friendship and cooperation Saturday, formally setting up sisterhood relations between their cities.

Mayors Yi Hae-won of Seoul and Gavriil Popov of Moscow signed the four-point agreement, which covers exchanges of public officials and athletes by the cities as well as information on administration.

Seoul and Moscow will not only promote mutual exchanges through visits of functionaries and administration specialists but also encourage cooperation in the fields of culture, sports, tourism and scientific techniques, according to the agreement.

The cities also agreed to share information and experiences regarding city planning, housing, construction, transportation, piped water and protection of the environment.

More on Mayor's Remarks

SK1307130391 Seoul YONHAP in English 1227 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 13 (YONHAP)—Mayor Gavriil Popov of Moscow said Saturday his city would promote persistent ties both with Seoul and Pyongyang in a way that contributes to the advancement of unification of the Korean peninsula.

After signing a Seoul-Moscow agreement on friendship and cooperation with Mayor Yi Hae-won, Popov told reporters he hoped to invite Yi and South Korean journalists in an effort to step up mutual cooperation between the two cities.

He said exchanges of people between Moscow and Seoul, both of them old cities sharing many things in common, are more meaningful than signing of documents.

Meanwhile, Yi said after signing the accord, "a foothold was laid for cooperation between the two cities in political, cultural, social, sports and other spheres."

Promises Trade Center Site

SK1507101391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0951 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 15 (OANA-YONHAP)—Plans for a Korea-Soviet Trade Center got a boost Saturday when the mayor of Moscow promised to come up with a site by Aug. 15.

Gavriil Popov, visiting Korea at the invitation of Seoul Mayor Yi Hae-won, told Yi Son-ki, president of the Korea Trade Promotion Corp. [KOTRA], and representatives of the seven companies involved in the project that his city would provide a site by Aug. 15 so construction could begin at an early date.

Popov asked the Koreans to send a team to choose a site late this month. The seven companies are Lucky-Goldstar International Corp., Daewoo Corp., Hyosung Corp., Korea Telecom, Pohang Steel and Iron Co., Samwhan Corp. and Lotte Department Store.

KOTRA will send an official to Moscow to handle business communications with KOTRA headquarters in Seoul concerning the trade center, and it will send a site-selection team made up of officials from the seven companies and KOTRA by the end of the month.

Popov and the Koreans signed a memorandum on construction of the Korea-Soviet trade center that had already been signed by KOTRA's Yi and the vice mayor of Moscow last December, when President No Tae-u visited the Soviet capital.

No Western nation has a trade center in Moscow at present, but Austria and Britain have expressed an interest and negotiations are underway between Vienna and Moscow.

The proposed Korea-Soviet Trade Center, to be a symbol of the establishment of bilateral relations, needs an 18,000-pyong (59,400-square-meter) site and is designed with floor space of 40,000 pyong (132,000 square meters).

Fisheries Delegation Visits Moscow 9-11 Jul

SK1307015091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0104 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 13 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the Soviet Union will sign a fisheries agreement next month that opens Soviet seas to Korean vessels, Foreign Ministry officials said Saturday.

Fishing rights in the Bering Sea, however, will be left out of the bilateral pact and discussed at multilateral negotiations opening in Tokyo at the end of July led by the United States, Japan and the Soviet Union, the officials said.

The agreement will specify the areas of Soviet seas and of Kamchatka Bay that Korean vessels will be allowed to fish in, according to the officials.

The two nations initialed a fisheries pact in January, when a Soviet economic delegation visited Seoul. They were to officially sign the agreement in February, but delayed when the Soviets demanded that fishing in the Bering Sea be restricted under a quota system.

Korean and Soviet officials, at a three-day meeting in Moscow on July 9-11, decided to leave the issue to multilateral negotiations rather than including it in the bilateral pact.

A Korean fisheries delegation will go to Moscow to sign the agreement next month, and a joint committee meeting is likely to be held then to discuss other cooperation measures such as technology transfer and opening of fishing equipment factories, the officials said.

Environment Minister Returns From Moscow

SK1507060191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0516 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 15 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the Soviet Union have agreed in principle to establish an international environmental organization to tackle worsening pollution in Northeast Asia with North Korea, Japan and China participating, Environment Minister Kwon I-hyok said Monday.

On arriving at the Kimpo International Airport, Kim [as received] said he had discussed matters of mutual concern pertaining to general environmental problems with his Soviet counterpart Nikolay Vorontsov in Moscow and they had agreed to push for a Northeast Asian environmental organization as a part of global efforts to protect nature.

They also decided to build a close cooperative relationship in fields such as preservation of living resources, protection of the ocean environment, suburban improvement and pollution measurement, Kwon said.

The two ministers exchanged minutes on joint efforts, including their plan to found an international organization in Northeast Asia.

Netherlands Aviation Talks End Unsuccessfully

SK1307013991 Seoul YONHAP in English 2333 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 13 (YONHAP) - South Korea and the Netherlands failed to agree on increasing the frequency of the current twice a week flights between them in two-day bilateral aviation talks that ended here Friday.

The two sides, however, will resume their talks prior to March next year to continue discussion on the matter, officials at the Transportation Ministry said Saturday.

Korea Air (KAL) operates Seoul-Frankfurt-Amsterdam and Seoul-Amsterdam-Rome flights and KLM of the Netherlands flies Amsterdam-Seoul twice a week.

In the two-day meeting, the Korean side was headed by Chang Pu-si, director of the Ministry's Aviation Bureau, while C.T. Den Braven, director of aviation policy led the Dutch side.

Number of Unions Decreases 'Last Year'

SK1307084491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0525 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 13 (YONHAP)—The number of unions in South Korea decreased last year for the first time since 1987, the Labor Ministry said Saturday.

Korea had 7,698 unions at the end of 1990, down 185 from a year earlier, with 1.88 million members, down 45,000, it said.

After the "June 29 democratic reform" declaration in 1987, there were 2,725 unions with 1.05 million members and the number more than doubled in 1988 to 5,598 unions with 1.7 million members.

The rate of union formation, members as a percentage of people eligible to be members, dropped to 18.4 percent last year, the ministry said.

Metal-related firms had the largest number of union members, 429,710 in 1,526 unions, followed by banks (196 unions, 146,114 members) and textile firms (478 unions, 137,139 members).

Ministry Announces Power Plant Construction Plan

SK1307011091 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 13 Jul 91 p 8

[Text] A mammoth power plant complex will be built on Yonghung Island, an island off the western coast, in an effort to cope with a power shortage in the 21st century, the Energy Resources Ministry announced yesterday.

The plan calls for the construction of 12 bituminous coal power plants with a capacity of 900,000 kw each in the complex whose total area would amount to 8.1 million sq. meters.

The total power generation capacity of the complex set at 10.8 million kw accounts for approximately 50 percent of the nation's present power capacity, ministry officials said.

In the first place, construction of two bituminous coal units will begin in 1994 with completion scheduled for 1999, the ministry said. Construction of other units will be pushed on a gradual basis.

"Yonghung Island, off Ansan, Kyonggi Province is endowed with natural favors for construction of power plants," a ministry official said.

The western coast of the island would be reclaimed from the sea for sites for the power plants, officials said.

Along with construction of power stations, the ministry also plans to build a 1.2 kilometer bridge linking Yonghung Island to nearby Sonjae Island in its bid to help enhance the livelihood of the island residents.

The construction cost of the 12 power stations was put at more than six trillion won by the ministry's rough estimate. The cost of accommodating construction sites would climb to as high as some 834 billion won.

The ministry's choice of an island as a power plant site is seen as its desperate bid to break through a stalemate in finding new power plant sites.

Riding on the democratization mood, Korea's power building programs have faced mounting hardships due to its inability to select power plant sites.

Burma

Documents on UN Development, Environment Signed

BK1207111991 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Excerpts] A ceremony was held today at the Foreign Ministry Annex for the signing of two project documents providing UNDP [UN Development Program] assistance for agricultural development and development of the border areas and national races. The ceremony also marked the signing of a project document on the environment.

At the ceremony, U Ohn Gyaw, chairman of the Coordinating Body for Cooperation With International and Other Organizations for the Development of Border Areas and deputy foreign minister, and resident coordinators of the UN agencies and Mr. Gerd Merrem, UNDP resident representative, delivered an address and signed the project documents. [passage omitted]

The projects are the first of the UN interagency-assisted project for border area development, and the UNDP's input amounted to $1.3 million. The Border Areas Community Development Project is designed to assist people in the border to select, design, and implement community development projects, particularly those for income generation and social infrastructure at the village level.

Under the integrated agricultural development project, the UNDP will extend assistance in introducing on a pilot basis techniques of agro-forestry, such as conservation farming in the border areas. These projects are to be carried out in the East Keng Tung, Kokang, and Wa areas.

The Government of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] has launched a program for development of border areas and national races since 1989 and had already incurred development expenditures amounting to more than 223.96 million kyats for this purpose. The UNDP-assisted project would complement the concerted efforts of the Government of the Union of Myanmar toward development of the border areas and national races.

The project on the environment was signed between U Ohn Gyaw, deputy foreign minister in his capacity as chairman of the National Commission for Environmental Affairs, and Mr. Gerd Merrem, UNDP representative in Burma.

The Government of the Union of Myanmar has always placed special emphasis on environmental protection and formed the National Commission for Environmental Affairs in February 1990 in order to help coordinate environmental policies.

This project, for which UNDP would provide $680 thousand, is designed to help strengthen the national commission in its efforts to promote environmentally sound and sustainable development in the Union of Myanmar.

Deceased Representative Removed From List

BK1207151691 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] The Multiparty Democratic General Elections Commission of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] has issued Announcement No. 951 on 12 July 1991. The text of the announcement reads:

Subject: Announcement removing the late People's Assembly Representative U Maw, from the list of elected representatives.

U Maw [of the National League for Democracy], who was elected from Thabeikkyin Township constituency, Shan State, in the Multiparty Democratic General Elections, passed away on 5 July 1991. He has therefore been removed from the list of elected People's Assembly Representatives.

By the authority vested in me,

Signed: Aye Maung, secretary

'Top' Anti-Rangoon Guerrilla Leader Dies

BK1307044091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0440 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] A top anti-Rangoon guerrilla leader, Gen Monheng Korn Jurng, has died of cancer after suffering the disease for more than a year, guerrilla sources said.

The 66-year-old president of the Muang Tai Army (MTA), who had cancer on his left face [as received], passed away at the main MTA stronghold in Pang Mai Sueng opposite Ban Piang Luang, Chiang Dao District of Chiang Mai.

The MTA sources did not say when the death occurred.

The general led the Tai Revolutionary Army before it merged with the Shan United Army headed by Khun Sa.

He was chosen president of the new group called Muang Tai Army, while Khun Sa was vice president.

MTA administrative leaders were reportedly travelling to the camp for the funeral, except Khun Sa, Zang Zu Chern and Khun Sa's uncle Khun Saeng.

MTA leaders had been discussing the choice of Gen Moheng's successor for about a week before his death and Khun Sa appeared the most favourite, the sources said.

A few days before the general's death, Khun Sa sent a letter to Gen Moheng requesting that he be appointed the next MTA president, but the general was in coma and did not sign the appointment, the sources said.

Gen Moheng once told the BANGKOK POST that he already had in mind who should succeed him but did not want to name his choice until the time was right.

National Democratic Front Names New Chairman

BK1407061091 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Jul 91 p 2

[Text] Mae Hong Son—The Anti-Rangoon National Democratic Front [NDF] has named New Mon State leader Nai Swe Kyin as its new chairman.

The appointment came during the NDF's half-month long Third Congress held at its Manaplaw headquarters opposite Mae Hong Son between June 24 and July 9.

Nai Swe Kyin succeeds Saw Maw Rel, leader of the Karenni National Progressive Party, who completes his term as NDF chairman.

The NDF comprises nine ethnic minority groups which formed a front four decades ago to fight for autonomy from Rangoon following the independence of Burma after World War II.

Saw Maw Rel said Lt-Col Zaw Seng of the Kachin Independent Organisation was named during the congress to be the front's vice-chairman while Kahaing Soe Naing Aun of the Arakan Liberation Party and Sai Maung Mhine of the Karen National Progressive Party were made general secretary and joint secretary respectively.

The NDF, in a statement issued at the end of the congress, denounced Rangoon's failure to honour its promise to allow the popularly elected National League for Democracy to form a government.

It reaffirmed its determination to pursue an armed and political struggle against the Rangoon administration of the State Law and Order Restoration Council.

The NDF originally had 12 ethnic minority groups as members but the number dropped to nine after the Pa-o National Organisation, Palaung State Liberation Party and Shan State Progressive Party pledged allegiance to Rangoon.

The NDF during the congress formally declared to expel the three minority groups from its membership.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

China, USSR To Attend ASEAN Meeting

BK1207150291 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in English 1330 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] The Soviet Union and China will attend for the first time the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting, AMM, next week as guests of Malaysia. Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Badawi says China's Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and the first deputy prime minister of the Soviet Union, Yuri Maslyukov, have been invited by him for the AMM. As the chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee, he can invite anybody to attend the AMM as guests.

He was referring to reports of moves to have both China and the Soviet Union elevated to a dialogue partner status with ASEAN. Datuk Abdullah told a news conference in Kuala Lumpur that ASEAN will meet with China and the Soviet Union separately. The two countries have indicated their interests to upgrade their ties with ASEAN. Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed will open the two-day AMM on the 19th of this month. The meeting will also be attended by the Chinese and Soviet leaders and Papua New Guinea as an observer.

The 24th annual meeting of the foreign ministers of the six Southeast Asian countries will be followed by the Post Ministerial Conference, PMC, between ASEAN and its dialogue partners—Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, the European Community, South Korea, and the United States. South Korea was elevated to a full dialogue partner last January after being accepted on a [word indistinct] level. Datuk Abdullah said the AMM and the PMC will be significant meetings because they are being held just after the Gulf war, the summit of G-7, the latest move for a solution to the elusive Cambodian question, and the end of the cold war. Three of the countries—Japan, the United States, and Canada, are coming for the PMC and Malaysia is interested in the outcome of the meeting.

Malaysia is also interested in the latest move by the developed countries to lift sanctions on South Africa. Malaysia recently said that it will review world opinion before making any move on the matter.

Datuk Abdullah said the PMC in Kuala Lumpur will see a new style of dialogue: first, a meeting with all the dialogue partners, then followed by a series of seven meetings with each of the dialogue partners. There will be ample time for them to discuss issues extensively just as there will be time for them to meet formally and informally on a bilateral basis.

On the substance of the AMM, Datuk Abdullah said ASEAN ministers will discuss among other things the report on the proposed East Asia Economic Group, EAEG, prepared by ASEAN senior officials. Earlier this year, [words indistinct] ASEAN senior officials to hammer out the EAEG proposal before presenting the concept to countries in the region. Datuk Abdullah said the ASEAN foreign ministers will also consider the report of the ASEAN secretary general on ways to make the grouping's secretariat more effective. He also said the ASEAN leaders and the foreign ministers of the dialogue partners will meet Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir informally.

On Malaysia's dispute with Indonesia over Sipadan island, he said he would be meeting his Indonesian counterpart Mr. Ali Alatas to set the date for the first meeting of the two countries' newly set up Joint Commission. He said like the General Border Committee meetings with Thailand to resolve border issues, bilateral problems are discussed and resolved through this mechanism.

South Korean Investment Increases by 'Four-Fold'

BK1307084491 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0318 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, July 13 (OANA-BERNAMA)—South Korean investment in Malaysia increased four-fold after the visit of Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed last year, Parliament was told here Friday.

Deputy Foreign Minister Dr. Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan said that South Korean investment jumped to M [Malaysian] $650 million (about U.S. $236 million) from M$148 million (about U.S. $53.8 million) the previous year. However, in the first five months of this year, the investment rose further, to M$1.613 billion (about U.S. $586 million).

Replying to questions in the lower house of Parliament, he said the visit had benefited Malaysia greatly both in the long and short terms.

The increase in Korean investment had not only created more jobs but also helped in the industrialisation process, he said.

South Korea had also agreed to reduce the import duty on palm kernel from 13 to 10 percent, he added.

The South Korean Government also contributed U.S. $1 million towards the setting up of a Korean language centre at the Mara Institute of Technology (MIT).

Government Favors Lifting of RSA Sanctions

BK1307071991 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0646 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Washington, July 13 (OANA-BERNAMA)—The Malaysian Government has not made any decision on the lifting of economic sanctions imposed on South Africa [Republic of South Africa—RSA], but it is in favour of a "phased lifting of sanctions," depending on the progress of reforms initiated by the South African Government to dismantle apartheid, Ambassador-designate to the United States Abdul Majid Mohamed said here Friday.

As a member of the committee of Commonwealth foreign ministers on South Africa, Malaysia would be guided by the views expressed by African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela, other African leaders, and the Frontlines States, he added.

Majid was briefing the press on the 24th ASEAN ministerial meeting/post ministerial conference (AMM/PMC) to be held in Kuala Lumpur from July 19-24.

He said: "Perhaps a phased lifting of the sanctions might be the best way to approach the issue."

"As far as Malaysia is concerned, it has indeed proven its impact, leading to the kind of initiative (on reforms) that the South African Government has taken."

At the same time, Malaysia has expressed its views to Mandela that "while we're working towards a democratic South Africa, every effort must be made to guarantee the rights of every citizen in South Africa... [ellipsis as received] While you're working for the democratic rights of the Blacks, the Whites must also be considered", he added.

South Africa would feature among numerous topics that would be brought up during the ASEAN PMC from July 22-24, which would be attended by foreign ministers of ASEAN's seven dialogue partners—Australia, Canada, European Community, Japan, New Zealand, the United States, and South Korea, a sectoral dialogue partner which was expected to become a full dialogue partner during the meeting.

Another new development would be the presence of China and the Soviet Union which have been invited by the Malaysian Government as "guests" for the opening of the AMM.

Although not ASEAN's dialogue partners, China and the Soviet Union were expected to hold discussions with members of the Southeast Asian grouping, Majid said.

Topics to be discussed at the PMC include Cambodia, the Indochinese refugees, the Middle East question, and developments in Eastern Europe.

Foreign Minister Views South-South Cooperation

BK1207102091 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 9 Jul 91 p 6

[Text] Penang, Mon—The community of South countries has assumed added importance and dimension in Malaysia's perspective as we seek to expand our reach to the outside world, Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said tonight.

He said a deliberate policy of strengthening bilateral relationships, especially with key countries of the South, was necessary to demonstrate that South-South cooperation was not only desirable but in fact possible.

Datuk Abdullah, who has just returned from a visit to Chile, Brazil and Argentina, said this during a talk on "Economic Elements of Foreign Policy" at Uniersiti Sains Malaysia.

"Over the years, we have developed broad and credible relationships through a variety of bilateral exchanges and multilateral linkages.

"These relationships have brought many political dividends for Malaysia. But more than that, when seen from a global perspective, the South does have a real economic significance for Malaysia particularly as we seek new markets and investment opportunities for ourselves," he said.

Emphasising that there will be an ever-increasing need to establish good relations with as many countries as possible, Datuk Abdullah also said the corporate and business sector on their own will not be able to exploit the fullest potential of economic partnerships with their counterparts unless there was good relations at Government-to-Government level.

"It is only the Governments that can provide an environment of confidence, and in some cases even guarantees, which are necessary for inter-State economic business to flourish."

He said to help achieve the objective of establishing linkages as widely as possible across the globe, it was necessary for a small country like Malaysia to demonstrate its credibility and be seen to be involved in world affairs.

"For example, it is necessary to contribute to international efforts for peace and security.

"In this respect, Malaysia has done well in the last few years in maintaining a high international profile," said [as published]

Chief Minister Seeks Aid To Free Fishermen

BK1207131691 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] The Sabah state government has sought the assistance of the federal government and the Indonesian authorities for the release of a Sabah fishing vessel being held in East Kalimantan, Indonesia, chief Minister Datuk Sri Joseph Pairin Kitingan said this in Kota Kinabalu last night.

The 100-tonnes M.V. Pulau Bangi belonging to Sabah Fish Marketing was reported missing last Monday while fishing about eight km off Sipadan Island which is claimed by both Malaysia and Indonesia. Company Chairman Micheal Tan said the vessel and its 13-man crew were believed to be in Tarakan. A report said they were being detained for allegedly trepassing in Indonesian territorial waters.

Singapore

Armed Forces Chiefs Sign Accord on Thai Logistics

BK1207122491 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1100 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] The Singapore and Thai Armed Forces have signed an agreement to promote cooperation in military logistics. It was signed in Singapore this morning by the Supreme Commander of the Royal Thai Armed Forces General Sunthon Khongsomphong and the Chief of Defense Force, Lieutenant-General Winston Choo.

The agreement is [word indistinct] matters to supplies, maintenance and transportation.

General Sunthon is here on a four-day official visit at the invitation of Lieutenant-General Choo. He earlier called on the Defense Minister Dr. Yeo Ning Hong and will meet the Prime Minister Mr. Goh Chok Tong tomorrow.

Cambodia

Chea Sim Agrees to UN Peacekeeping Force

BK1307005591 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 13 Jul 91 p 2

[Text] Phnom Penh National Assembly chairman Chea Sim has agreed to the idea of stationing a UN peacekeeping force in Cambodia to monitor the ceasefire, Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Suchinda Khraprayun said last night.

The general had a working dinner with Mr Chea Sim for about three hours at the Princess Hotel last night.

Gen Suchinda said he told Mr Chea Sim that a ceasefire on paper without a peace-keeping force would not work and the latter agreed to his suggestion. He said further that he thought the UN peace- keeping force issue would be discussed at the next meeting of Cambodia's Supreme National Council [SNC].

The army chief said he found Mr Chea Sim's response very positive.

"Mr Chea Sim hopes peace will return to Cambodia in the near future, he said.

Mr Chea Sim is considered a hardliner within the Phnom Penh regime and is No. Two in the politburo of Phnom Penh's ruling communist party. The visit to Thailand is his first.

Gen Suchinda said he had invited Mr Chea Sim's family to visit Thailand. Chea Sim, he added, expressed thanks for Thailand's support for the Cambodian peace talks.

The army chief who is due to visit China on Monday, at the same time as Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen, said it was just a coincidence because he had no plan to meet the Cambodian leader.

Mr Chea Sim will have a working breakfast today with Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin, Political Department chief Sarot Chawanawirat and permanent secretary Withaya Wetchachiwa.

Before dinner last night, Mr Chea Sim told reporters that the Cambodian problem should be solved step by step.

He also welcomed the Khmer Rouge representatives' presence at future SNC meet in Phnom Penh.

Meanwhile, Mr Vittaya said the Foreign Ministry regards Mr Chea Sim as an important figure and would accord him the same treatment as that given to Phnom Penh Foreigh Minister Sok An.

He explained that Thailand wants to keep the UN peace plan process moving forward following the Phatthaya meeting of the SNC last month and also wants to narrow the differences in opinion between the Phnom Penh regime and resistance factions over the UN peace plan.

Chea Sim Optimistic About Beijing SNC Talks

OW1307125491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1122 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Bangkok, July 13 KYODO—Chea Sim, a top official of Cambodia's Phnom Penh government, Saturday predicted "good outcomes" from Cambodian talks slated for Beijing next week.

Chea Sim, chairman of the Phnom Penh National Assembly, said that although he expected limited results from the informal talks, the parley could pave the way for progress at a formal meeting in August of the Supreme National Council (SNC), a body of national reconciliation.

At the meeting next Monday and Tuesday, leaders of the four rival Cambodian factions will try to iron out differences on a UN plan for ending the 12-year-old war.

That plan, drafted last August, set up the SNC and calls for UN supervision of a ceasefire, disarmament, and eventual elections in Cambodia. The factions agreed to an indefinite truce late last month but have since accused each other of breaking the ceasefire.

The Phnom Penh leader arrived in Bangkok Friday on a trip that will take him to Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan before he goes to China.

Chea Sim said the Phnom Penh government does not want to "be away from" the UN plan. He also referred to an earlier statement by the SNC's de facto chairman, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, that the plan should be "examined and applied."

The Phnom Penh leader also reiterated Phnom Penh's call for leaders of the Khmer Rouge faction to be put on trial for their allegedly genocidal rule in the late 1970s, but said some top leaders would be exempt.

"The Cambodian people want the Khmer Rouge top leaders to go on trail—other leaders would be considered (case) by case," Chea Sim said.

He said Khmer Rouge leaders Khieu Samphan and Son Sen would be exempt because they have joined the SNC and are seeking a political settlement to the war.

UN, French, and Indonesian representatives will also attend the Beijing meeting. The Cambodian leaders are slated to meet later next week in Beijing with officials from the five permanent members of the UN Security Council.

Prime Minister Departs for Beijing SNC Talks

BK1407051891 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0450 GMT 14 Jul 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK July 14—Prime Minister Hun Sen, who is a representative of the State of Cambodia's SNC [Supreme National Council] group, left here today for Beijing to attend an upcoming informal meeting of all opposing Khmer parties there on July 16-17.

The prime minister also accepted an invitation relayed by Prince Norodom Sihanouk from the Chinese Government to attend talks in the Chinese capital on July 22-24. According to AFP, this visit was seen by experts as representing an important new development in the Cambodian peace process.

On the informal meeting that is to take place in Beijing next week, a spokesman of the Chinese Foreign Ministry was quoted by AFP as saying that he hoped "all the parties of Cambodia will cast aside their grievances and achieve a true national reconciliation."

Prime Minister Hun Sen is to represent the Cambodian Government at the informal peace talks in Beijing July 16-17, which will be organized by the prince. After the talks, the prime minister is to be the prince's guest in the capital of Pyongyang of the DPRK where the 68-year-old prince has a residence.

"I have accepted (Beijing's) invitation and would like to thank the Chinese Government for inviting me to visit," Prime Minister Hun Sen said in his message to the Cambodian people Wednesday.

I will make my utmost efforts—during both visits—to find a common stance on the solution of the Cambodian problem," he added.

Chea Sim Leaves for 3-Day Visit to Japan

BK1207120091 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1108 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK July 12th—A delegation of the National Assembly [N.A.] of the State of Cambodia led by its chairman Chea Sim left here for Tokyo today for a three day-visit to Japan (July 13-15).

The visit was to respond to the invitation of Michio Watanabe, a member of the Japanese Diet.

The five-member group was seen off at the Pochentong Airport by Prime Minister Hun Sen; Deputy Prime Minister Chea Soth; and others.

It was the first visit of the Cambodian National Assembly chairman to Tokyo since the debacle of the genocidal regime of Pol Pot in early 1979.

Japan hosted a meeting among the Khmer warring factions held in Tokyo in June last year. The talks were broken down after the Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan boycotted the opening session, prompting the two rival delegations to abandon the meeting.

In early June this year, Chairman Chea Sim also paid a private visit to France where analysts considered it the first one by the Cambodian N.A. chairman to the West. While in Paris, he met with French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas; Parliamentary Speaker Laurent Fabius; Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Alain Vivian; and Foreign Affairs Cousellor Chief Minhel Vauzelle.

Khmer Rouge Leader Leaves Bangkok for PRC

BK1307064291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0333 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Bangkok, July 13 (AFP)—Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan left here early Saturday for China via Guangzhou.

Mr. Khieu Samphan will be joining the other two non-communist resistance groups and the Phnom Penh government delegation for an informal meeting of Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC) in Beijing.

The SNC, established in September last year under a peace plan forged by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, represents Cambodia's four warring factions and is chaired by former Cambodian monarch Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

Last month the four factions agreed during a three-day SNC meeting in Thailand's coastal resort town of Phatthaya to observe an unlimited ceasefire and to establish the SNC headquarters in Phnom Penh.

SNC Members Leave for Meeting in Beijing

BK1307070291 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Members of the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC] and attached delegation from the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF] side arrived in Beijing this Saturday while the delegation from the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia [FUNCINPEC], also left for Beijing this Saturday morning.

His Excellency Son Sann, KPNLF president, prime minister of the Cambodian national government, and SNC member, led a seven-member delegation to attend this meeting in Beijing. Apart from His Excellency Son Sann, the delegation includes Ieng Muli, KPNLF general secretary and SNC member; Son Soubert, delegate of the KPNLF Executive Committee in charge of foreign affairs; General (Chum Chheang), delegate of the KPNLF Executive Committee in charge of internal affairs; General Thach Reng, adviser to the KPNLF president; Sieng Lapresse, ambassador representing the KPNLF at the United Nations; and Pol Ham, deputy delegate of the KPNLF Executive Committee in charge of propaganda affairs.

The delegation of the FUNCINPEC side is led by Prince Norodom Ranariddh, FUNCINPEC general secretary, supreme commander of the National Army of Independent Cambodia and SNC member. Accompanying Prince Norodom Ranariddh are Keo Put-Reaksmei, in charge of foreign affairs at the royal representative's office; and Ek Sereivoat.

The meeting of the Cambodian SNC in Beijing will be held on 16 and 17 July. Sources in Phnom Penh also say that the delegation from the Phnom Penh regime side will leave for Beijing on Sunday and includes Hun Sen, Hor Namhong, and Im Chhunlim.

Commentary Hopes Beijing Meeting Successful

BK1507101791 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Political commentary: "It Is Time for Mr. Hun Sen's Group To Fully Accept Peace Agreement"]

[Text] The outcome of the recent Supreme National Council [SNC] meeting in Phatthaya, Thailand has made the Cambodian people, who are fed up with the protracted 12-year war of aggression conducted by the Vietnamese against Cambodia, elated with hope that the light of a peaceful solution for Cambodia is becoming increasingly visible. This hope could further materialize if the Phnom Penh side courageously makes concessions to remove the major stumbling block to the implementation of the UN peace plan.

We have noted that the existence of remaining obstacles is due to Mr. Hun Sen's side creating various problems to obstruct the Cambodian peace process, specifically, to block the 26 November 1990 draft agreement. The delay in accepting the peace plan has prevented the United Nations from dispatching a strong force to monitor the cease-fire and verify the cessation of outside military aid. Another factor of the delay concerns the presence of hidden Vietnamese forces in Cambodia, or the delay is generated by the Phnom Penh regime's mistrust of the Cambodian people in general elections in the country under UN supervision and control. Moreover, Mr. Hun Sen's group is also worried that its position, wealth, and power could be dismantled if all the SNC members agree to fully accept the peace plan and the 26 November 1990 draft agreement.

According to Mr. Hun Sen's statement reported by the Phnom Penh regime's press agency SPK, all the Cambodian parties have observed the cease-fire and stopped receiving foreign arms supplies. Mr. Hun Sen has indicated that the implementation will create an agreeable atmosphere for the peace talks in Beijing on next Tuesday and Wednesday, 16-17 July.

Mr. Hor Namhong, the SNC member of the Phnom Penh regime, has said that a political settlement of the war in Cambodia is at hand. He has added that the Phnom Penh side is ready to soften its stance at the coming Beijing SNC meeting. Mr. Hor Namhong has further underlined that the Phnom Penh regime will cooperate if the three resistance parties intend to discuss the peace plan worked out by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC].

According to a statement issued by the president of the Phnom Penh regime's National Assembly, Mr. Chea Sim, on his way to Japan, the latter has agreed that a UN peacekeeping force verify the cease-fire implementation by the four Cambodian parties.

We wish to sincerely welcome and extol the statements issued by these Phnom Penh leaders. However, your wordings still fall short of ensuring a lasting peace in Cambodia. The world has already initiated and guaranteed a genuine peace draft agreement for Cambodia—the 26 November 1990 draft agreement. If you, the Phnom Penh leaders, really want an everlasting 100 percent peace, why do you continue to reject the 26 November 1990 draft agreement?

Mr. Ieng Muli, secretary general of the executive committee of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF] and SNC member, disclosed before his departure for Beijing on 12 July, that the KPNLF delegation to attend the SNC meeting in Beijing on 16 July, will do its utmost to implore the Phnom Penh regime's leaders—who are indicating that they are eager to see peace restored to Cambodia—to respect the Big Five's plan, because only the plan can bring about a genuine peace desired by the Cambodian people.

By all accounts, we keep hoping that the informal two-day SNC meeting in Beijing would open a new page showing a satisfactory outcome achieved with a spirit of doing away with the remaining obstacles and with a sense of compromise by the four Cambodian parties, especially the Phnom Penh side.

Every Cambodian is earnestly looking forward to seeing the outcome of this round of meeting and hopes that it has success.

VODK Urges Acceptance of Peacekeeping Force

BK1407091291 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Station editorial: "The Cambodian People Are Uniting Around the Supreme National Council Headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk With a View To Enhancing a Comprehensive Political Settlement of the Vietnamese War of Aggression Against Cambodia in Accordance With the Framework Document of the Five Permanent Members of the UN Security Council"]

[Text] The Supreme National Council [SNC] has already functioned after the election of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as its chairman at the meeting of the 12-member SNC in Phatthaya in the Kingdom of Thailand on 24-26 June.

The SNC is the only legitimate organ of the Cambodian nation and people outside and inside the country. This means that there is no other state authority after the SNC has been installed. The United Nations and various international organizations as well as the international community have recognized only the SNC. Diverse countries which will install their embassies in Cambodia in the near future will have their representatives accredited to the SNC headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. Besides, the SNC presided over by the samdech represents a national reconciliation, compromise, and unity without bickering or defamation; without white, black, blue, or red; without discrimination against political persuasions; and without repeating what has happened in the past. There are only Cambodians currently displaying joint efforts to promote the settlement of the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia via a comprehensive political solution in accordance with the framework document and the 26 November 1990 draft agreement of the United Nations. This is to restore peace, independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and self-determination to Cambodia. After the restoration of peace and in the long-term future, the Cambodians should join forces to rebuild and defend the country and ensure the survival of the Cambodian race. This is the significance of the SNC headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk.

All of our Cambodian people inside and outside the country should henceforth unite around the Sihanouk-led SNC to jointly put their shoulders to the wheel, doing everything so as to achieve the goal. This means they will hand in hand promote the presence of a UN force with sufficient manpower and facilities in Cambodia carrying out overall supervision and control over the withdrawal of Vietnamese aggressor forces from the country, implementing the cease-fire, not accepting outside arms supplies, organizing correct and free general elections, and so on. Only with a UN force with adequate human resources can the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia be settled through a comprehensive political solution. And only with an overall settlement of the Vietnamese war of aggression—meaning when Vietnamese troops completely withdraw from Cambodia—can the country regain its independence, neutrality, territorial integrity, and self-determination and can the Cambodian nation achieve a genuine national reconciliation and compromise and live harmoniously together forever.

Phnom Penh Urged To Accept 28 Aug Plan

BK1407090291 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 13 Jul 91

["The People in Kompong Cham Province Are Furious With That So-and-So Chea Sim for Parroting the Vietnamese"]

[Text] The national council in Kompong Cham Province recently reported that after that so-and-so Chea Sim recited the so-called speech prepared by the Vietnamese aimed at forcing the Cambodian people to unite with the Vietnamese aggressors, the people became furious, defiantly muttering against him and swearing at him. The people believed that Chea Sim's wording was from the Vietnamese aggressors. He only parroted the Vietnamese invaders, forcing the people to follow the Indochinese federation strategy of the late Ho Chi Minh and Le Duan. Nonetheless, the people despised and opposed it. They did not pay any attention to Chea Sim's repeating the nonsensical statement after the Vietnamese aggressors. The people wondered how they could join forces with the Vietnamese invaders as the latter continued to massacre them.

The Vietnamese aggressors have kindled the flame of war in Cambodia, invaded and occupied Cambodia, destroyed peace and security in Cambodia, and slaughtered the Cambodian people for nearly 12 years thus far. The Vietnamese aggressors have encroached upon and successively annexed Cambodian territory. They have gone so far as to extend their territory into Cambodian soil by up to 9 or 10 kilometers. For instance, in areas bordering Vietnam in Memot District of Kompong Cham Province, the Vietnamese aggressors have moved the borderline into Cambodia from 8 to 10 kilometers, insolently annexing and resettling in the areas.

If the Vietnamese aggressors continue to kill them, the Cambodian people can in no way unite with the former. The people believe that they need good friends and only desire to promote the relations of solidarity and friendship with the Vietnamese people in accordance with the principle of equality and mutual interest based on the five-point principle of peaceful coexistence. If they really want the Cambodian people to unite and establish relations with the Vietnamese people, the Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh side should sincerely accept and abide by the 28 August 1990 document of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council.

VONADK: SRV Troops Brought in 4-5 Jul

BK1507020791 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 14 Jul 91

[Text] On 4 and 5 July, the Vietnamese enemies sent 18 truckloads of fresh troops from Vietnam along Route 3 to the Cambodian battlefields. Eight truckloads of these troops were to be stationed in the new district of Dang Tong in Kampot Province, while 10 other truckloads were sent to Phnom Penh.

According to people, after spending a night in Dang Tong, 50 of these Vietnamese soldiers retreated. Fifteen of those in the 10 trucks fled along the road toward Phnom Penh.

Indonesia

Alatas Calls for Cooperation on Spratlys Conflict

BK1507103691 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1011 GMT 15 jul 91

[Text] Bandung (W.Java), July 15 (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said Monday Indonesia hoped that countries in the South China Sea would hold consultations on the Spratlys Islands and cooperate closely in order to prevent the outbreak of an open conflict in the region.

Instead of waiting for the outbreak of an open conflict, it would be better for us to speak to one and another, the minister said after opening a second workshop on managing potential conflicts in the South China Sea, held here from July 15 to 18, 1991.

According to Alatas, countries in the region should develop and expand cooperation in such fields as marine potential, navigation safety, environment protection and scientific research under a mutual benefit basis.

Such a cooperation, Alatas said, could create a climate which is conducive to the holding of peace negotiations on the jurisdiction of the area.

The minister said that even though informal in nature, the workshop—the second of its kind held after the one in Bali in January last year—would provide positive results for countries in the region.

Alatas expressed the hope that the workshop would pave the way for the governments of countries in the region to hold official consultations and to cooperate in the management of the South China Sea potentials.

China, Taiwan, Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam, Vietnam and the Philippines overlappingly claim sovereignty over the Spratlys and Paracels in the South China Sea. A number of countries have set up military posts to monitor the Spratlys which are believed to keep rich oil and gas deposits.

China and Vietnam involved in a brief arms conflict for 22 minutes over the island in 1988.

Observers said that the Spratlys in the South China Sea could emerge as a source for regional conlicts after the end of the Cambodian problem. They said that Vietnam has stationed its troops on 25 islands on the Spratlys, the Philippines on eight islands, China on seven islands, Malaysia on three islands and Taiwan on one island.

Brunei Darussalam claims sovereignty over the Lousia as well as on an area about 200 miles into the south of the Spratlys which it claims as a part of its economic exclusive zone area.

Alatas said that the change in the pattern of relations among advanced states will lead the Asian countries into an emerging global strategy which would affect the economic grouping and geo-politics of the Asia Pacific region.

He called on countries in the region to lay the foundation for their peaceful relations and stability. In this context, he said, the settelment of conflicts in the Korean peninsula and Cambodia should be given priorities.

More on South China Seas Workshop

BK1507093391 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0859 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Bandung, July 15 (OANA/BERNAMA)—Informal discussions began here Monday at a regional workshop to seek ways of cooperation in the South China Sea in spite of conflictng sovereignty claims over the Spratly Islands.

China, Taiwan, Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia and Brunei, all of which claim either part or all of the Spratlys, are taking part in the four-day workshop on managing potential conflicts in the South China Sea.

Also attending the workshop, the second hosted by Indonesia in 18 months, are Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand and Laos.

Opening the workshop, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said the discussions were aimed at establishing cooperation in marine resources management, navigational safety and environmental protection on the basis of shared interests and mutual benefits.

"This will hopefully create a constructive climate for peaceful consultations and negotiations on the contentious territorial and jurisdictional issues," he added.

The Spratlys, a group of tiny, mostly barren islands and reefs strategically located in the centre of the South China Sea, is believed to contain large oil reserves.

Alatas said Indonesia felt it was better to avert potential sources of conflicts through cooperation.

He stressed that the meeting was not meant to be a negotiating forum focusing on any overlapping sovereignty and jurisdictional claims to certain parts of the South China Sea.

Nevertheless, it was hoped that the findings of the workshop could be useful to the governments to pave the way towards more territorial or government-level discussions to address the issue officially, he said.

Malaysia is represented by senior government officials and the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS).

ICRC Team Visits Aceh Detention Centers

BK1407085291 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0451 GMT 14 Jul 91

[Text] Banda Aceh, July 14 (OANA-ANTARA)—A team from the International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) led by Pierre Ryter is currently making a visit to the Indonesian Province of Aceh to inspect the condition and treatment of members of the Aceh Security Disturbing Movement (GPK) in detention.

Until now we have never had any constraints or limitations to conduct our humanitarian mission in Aceh, Pierre Ryter told reporters through his team member, Edith Beariswyl, here Friday evening. The team member is Dr. Pierre Decosterd.

They would not tell the results of their observation into the detention centers. Edith Baeriswyl said they would only report them to the president of ICRC in Geneva and the Indonesian Government in Jakarta.

The team was received by the governor of Aceh, Ibrahim Hasan, on the first day of their visit Thursday.

On the occasion the governor said that the situation in Aceh has already recovered from GPK disturbances. All of the detainees were treated humanely according to the state ideology Pancasila and religious teachings, he said. We are humane people, he stated. Ibrahim Hasan said GPK members who had their origin outside Aceh, have done terrorism, murders, fires and other violent actions causing restiveness in several sub-regencies (North Aceh, Pidie and East Aceh).

The people in the region have lived in a frightful life but they have now been aware and have already had courage to fight them, he explained.

People are chasing them everywhere so that the GPK movement space is growing limited and some of them have even surrendered, he said. He said the provincial administration was opening its door to anyone who wanted to visit the region including those from the ICRC.

Look at the situation by your own eyes, see how we have treated the detainees and explain to the world about the real situation in the region, he said.

The ICRC team toured several detention places in Banda Aceh and Aceh Besar all day Friday accompanied by several officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the armed forces headquarters, the CSIS [Center for Strategic and International Studies] and the 012/Teuku Umar Military Resort Command.

They left for Lhokseumawe (North Aceh) Saturday afternoon. Pierre Ryter said his visit to Aceh was completely a humanitarian mission and was not intended for meddling into the political affairs in Indonesia.

One of the tasks of the ICRC as stated in the 1986 Convention is visiting war prisoners or political detainees in various countries, he said.

As an example he said that in the case of the conflict between the Kabul Government and the mojahidin guerrillas in Afgahanistan, the ICRC had also sent a team to meet the detainees from both parties. Ryter said that before they went to Aceh they had conducted the same mission in Irian Jaya and East Timor.

In order to be able to carry out the task, he said he must have a guarantee from the government concerned.

What is important is that the ICRC will never disclose any information it gets from its dialogue with detainees to the public including the press, he said adding that all reports will be handed over to the president of the ICRC and the government of the country concerned.

Reports about detainees in Indonesia so far have been handed over to the coordinating minister for political and security affairs, the minister of foreign affairs and the minister of justice.

The ICRC has conducted their mission in Indonesia since 1970 when it visited former Indonesian Communist Party detainees. It was followed with a visit to the East Timor detainees in 1982, the Irian Jaya detainees in 1989 and the Aceh detainees this year.

Security Units Kill Leader of Aceh Rebel Group

BK1507090091 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0813 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Medan (N. Sumatra), July 15 (OANA-ANTARA)—Another leader of the Aceh trouble makers group (GPK), Saleh Gedong, was shot dead in a raid launched by security units in Lhokseumawe here over the weekend, spokesman of the Bukit Barisan military district Lieutenat Colonel A. Maryono M. said here on Sunday night.

Gedong was shot when he tried to escape the arrest in an attempt to flee to Malaysia where he would provide information for Aceh's number one GPK leader Hasan Tiro, he said.

Security officers made the raid following information provided by the local people that a GPK leader was trying to flee to Malaysia.

Officers found an important document and a Malaysian identity card belonging to Gedong.

According to Maryono, the people of Aceh and the armed forces are resovled to destroy the GPK movement because it obviously undermines the unity and integrity of the nation.

The people's determination to crack down on the movement makes the GPK members feel that they are no longer accepted by the people so that they are trying to hide or running into the forest, he said.

Ministers To Ensure Sufficient Rice Stock

BK1307072591 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0500 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Bustanil Arifin, cooperatives minister and head of the National Logistic Board, has instructed regional logistic depot chiefs to ensure that the prices of basic commodities controlled by the National Logistic Board will not increase. The instruction was made at the Bina Baru resettlement village in Kampar Giri, Riau yesterday during a function marking the 44th Cooperative Day and the Riau Province-wide agricultural contest.

Bustanil Arifin is confident that the rice price will not increase because the National Logistic Board has a relatively large stock of some 1.7 million metric tons.

The people should not feel uneasy because Indonesia's rice stock in the face of the long drought is sufficient. Speaking after opening the 11th congress of the Indonesian Veterinarians Association in Yogyakarta, Agriculture Minister Wardoyo said the government has no plan to import rice as the rice stock is sufficent. According to Minister Wardoyo, the drought which started in June and July has affected largely rice fields which depend on rain water such as those in West Java, Central Java, East Java, Yogyakarta, and West Nusatenggara.

Laos

U.S. Operation Room Handed Over to Hospital

BK1207132091 Vientiane KPL in English 0911 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Vientiane, July 12 (KPL)—An operation room was handed over here on July 11, to the Hospital No. 103.

With the fund of 19,938,632 kip assisted by the U.S. Government within the handicapped rehabilitation project having the World Vision Organization as executing agent, the construction of this operation room began in March 1991 and finished in July 1991.

Present at the ceremony were the World Vision Organization's representative, Mr. Roy Foon; Mr. Vannaletth Latsapho, vice-minister of the public health.

The ceremony was attended by the representatives of WHO, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, and the Ministry of National Defence, as well as the charge d'affaires a.i. of the U.S.A. to Laos.

According to Mr. Thepsomphou, head of the orthopaedic center, the World Vision Organization will supply the Hospital No.103 with the new surgery equipment worth U.S. dollars 30,000.

French Leaders Greeted on Independence Day

BK1507041491 Vientiane KPL in English 0924 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Vientiane, July 13 (KPL)—Lao Acting President Phoumi Vongvichit has sent a telegram of congratulations to his French counterpart, Francois Mitterrand, on the national day of the Republic of France.

The telegram expressed the Lao side's pleasure to see the friendly relations between the two countries expanded and consolidated.

On the same occasion, the Lao chairman of the [Council of] Ministers, Kaysone Phomvihan, sent his telegram to his French counterpart, Edith Cresson, saying that he was pleased to see that the bilateral relations and cooperation are blossoming.

Phoun Sipaseut also sent greetings to his counterpart, Roland Dumas.

Phoun Attends French National Day Reception

BK1507110491 Vientiane KPL in English 0929 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Vientiane, July 15 (KPL)—Mr. Daniel Dupont, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of France to Laos, and his wife on July 14 evening hosted at his residence a reception to mark the 202nd national day of the Republic of France.

Guests to the reception were Lao Foreign Minister Phoun Sipaseut, several other Lao ministers, senior officials, diplomatic corps and members of the international organisations here.

Kaysone Sends Sympathy to Li Peng on Flooding

BK1307100091 Vientiane KPL in English 0919 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Vientiane, July 13 (KPL)—Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the Council of Ministers of Laos, yesterday sent a message of sympathies to his counterpart of the People's Republic of China, Mr. Li Peng.

The message was conveyed in connection with the losses in terms of materials and lives due to the flood occurring in the southeast of the country.

The note expressed confidence that the fraternal Chinese Government and people will be able to overcome the hardship and normalise the life soon.

Envoys Call on Souphanouvong on 82d Birthday

BK1507070891 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] On the occasion of the 82d birthday of President Souphanouvong, on 13 July 1991 the Soviet charge d'affaires and the ambassador of the Mongolian People's Republic to Laos called on the president at his residence.

On the same occasion, representatives of the Presidential Office and other organizations also presented bouquets of flowers to the president to wish him good health and long life. They highly lauded him for his outstanding achievements and contributions to the cause of national liberation and national construction.

Kaysone Receives Outgoing Mongolian Envoy

BK1207125891 Vientiane KPL in English 0908 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Vientiane, July 12 (KPL)—Mr. Kaysone Phomvihan, president of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, received here on July 11 Mr. Youmbouguine Sundag, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Mongolian People's Republic to the Lao PDR [People's Demolcratic Republic], who is ending his 3-year mission here.

The Mongolian ambassador has previously paid farewell visits to the acting president, the PSA [People's Supreme Assembly] president, and other Lao leaders.

Envoy Given Friendship Order

BK1507034091 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] On the evening of 12 July at the Government Reception Hall, acting on behalf of the government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], Foreign Affairs Minister Phoun Sipaseut conferred the Friendship Order on Comrade Urjinlhundeb, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Mongolian People's Republic to Laos, upon the successful conclusion of his 3-year diplomatic mission in Laos.

Throughout his 3-year term in Laos, the ambassador has made active contributions to promoting the time-honored traditional friendship and strengthening comprehensive solidarity between Laos and Mongolia. The LPDR government has, therefore, decided to confer the friendship order on him in recognition of his goodwill toward the Lao Government and people.

Reception Held to Mark Mongolian National Day

BK1207151091 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] On the 70th anniversary of the Mongolian People's Revolution and to bid farewell to Mongolian Ambassador Youmbouguine Sandag, the Mongolian Embassy in Vientiane yesterday evening hosted a reception at a diplomatic residence. Phoun Sipaseut, member of the party Central Committee [CC] Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and foreign affairs minister; and members of the party CC, ministers, deputy ministers, and high-level cadres from various services also attended the reception. Members of the diplomatic corps and representatives of the various international organizations in Laos were also invited to attend the function.

UNDP Aid Grants to Various Projects Noted

BK1207124091 Vientiane KPL in English 0914 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Vientiane, July 12 (KPL)—UNDP [United Nations Development Program], in the past years, have agreed to grant aid to 52 projects in Laos worth U.S. dollars 42.5 million, including funds from various countries. Among the projects, 10 are operated in Vientiane Province. The purpose of the projects focuses mainly on development and the transfer of technology from experts of specialized organisations to Lao technicians taking part in the practical development activities.

This was noted by Ms. Ameerah-Haq-Perera, representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Laos, on July 8 during a recent working visit to Kasi District, Vientiane Province on July 7-8.

UNDP representative further said that Laos had a high potential in self-development but its ethnic people should get to realize the value of their self-reliance after the transfer of expertise from foreign technicians, especially in the cultivation of crops to improve their living conditions and generate additional income.

Ms. Ameerah-Haq-Perera expressed satisfaction over the Vientiane Province-based weir construction projects supplying water to cultivation the areas [as received]. She was also glad to see that the local people had built these projects themselves under the technical guidance of experts, and was convinced that the Lao people would gain more experience in self-reliance.

In the period between 1991-1996, UNDP will grant U.S. dollars 72 million to Laos for the execution of various development projects in Laos, stressed UNDP representative.

Seminar on Foreign-Aid Infrastructure Closes

BK1307103891 Vientiane KPL in English 0920 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Vientiane, July 13 (KPL)—A two-day seminar on activities of construction of infrastructure opened Lan Xang hotel was closed on July 11 afternoon.

Attending the seminar which was chaired by Deputy Minister of External Economic Relations Dr. Kithong Vongsai were Ms. Amerah Haq Perera, resident representative of the UNDP [United Nations Development Program] to Laos, a consultant from the UN Headquarters in New York, and representatives from various state institutions and services in Vientiane.

The meeting discussed and reviewed the activities identifying positive points and constraints in the implementation of the project in building of infrastructure with foreign grant aid over the years. The participants made a wide range of suggestions on ways to effectively work out, establish, improve and realise the projects in the country under the UNDP's assistance for the coming five year period (1992-1996).

The seminar was in anticipation of the forthcoming round table conference to prioritise the country's needs and to build the capacity of absorbing international aid.

Philippines

Bases Negotiations Scheduled To Resume 16 Jul

HK1307044591 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Negotiations regarding the U.S. military bases will resume on Tuesday [16 July] at the Central Bank Building on Roxas Boulevard. President Corazon Aquino said she is waiting for the arrival of special U.S. negotiator Richard Armitage, for the official announcement of the United States' plan for the bases. Armitage is expected to arrive on Monday afternoon at Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

Analysis Notes U.S., Manila Bases Options

HK1507050491 Quezon City MALAYA in English 15 Jul 91 pp 1, 2

[An analysis by Ellen Tordesillas: "No Cards Left for RP [Republic of the Philippines] Play"]

[Text] Foreign Secretary Raul S. Manglapus faces U.S. Special Negotiator Richard Armitage today on what is hoped to be the concluding round of the Philippine-American Cooperation Talks (PACT) with no bargaining chip left.

There is no alternative for Manglapus but to give the United States another 10-year use of Subic Naval Base in exchange for a $825-million yearly compensation that is badly needed by the Philippines in rehabilitating its economy after the devastation caused by Mt. Pinatubo.

In a press conference last Friday, Manglapus' statement reflected efforts to maintain dignity in the face of surrender.

Asked for a reaction on the U.S. insistence for a longer duration for the bases to compensate for the high cost of rehabilitating its damaged military facilities, Manglapus said any U.S. proposal "would have to be weighed by the panel in the light of all factors and conditions surrounding the present situation."

But trying to keep a bold front, he added, "At the moment, our position does not change."

Before Mt. Pinatubo started erupting on June 10, Manglapus and Armitage, in exchanges through facsimile and telephone, were at the stage when they had almost agreed on the $825-million yearly compensation, a package that includes the $360-million offer in hard cash of the U.S. and the "creative items" such as excess military equipment, food aid, housing guarantees, procurement by U.S. servicemen of local goods, and concessional loans.

The difference in duration had also been narrowed. They were already working on a seven-year stay plus "a reasonable period of withdrawal." The U.S. wanted three years to withdraw, while the Philippines insisted on one year.

This week's talk is the seventh round since PACT started Sept. 18 last year. It is the eighth meeting of Manglapus and Armitage, including the May 1990 exploratory talks during which the Philippines, with much flourish, gave the U.S. a notice of termination of the 1947 Military Bases Agreement. In handing the notice, the Philippines made it clear that the 44-year-old accord "ends on Sept. 16, 1991 and cannot be extended."

The PACT was called to draw up an agreement that will govern the continued stay of U.S. military bases after September 1991.

The original position of the Philippines was assumption of full control of the four smaller facilities—San Miguel naval communication station, Camp O'Donnell, Wallace air station, and Camp John Hay by September this year.

It also wanted sovereign control of Clark by Sept. 17, saying no U.S. combat troops must be stationed there by then.

To prepare for the September 1991 take over of Clark, the Philippine Air Force start joint use of the facility by January 1991.

The Philippines assured the U.S. continued use of Crow Valley Target Range on a non-exclusive basis and some portions of Clark for its military airlift command.

As to Subic, the Philippine panel said it was amenable to a longer U.S. stay.

Realities, specifically the lack of money to share the cost of maintenance of Clark under a joint-use arrangement and the absence of a viable bases conversion plan, forced the Philippines to adjust its position. By February this year the Philippine panel was already talking of seven years duration for both Clark and Subic.

The U.S. on the other hand, started with a request for a 10- to 12-year stay and access afterwards for $360-million in military and economic assistance.

Last month, it relented by agreeing to withdraw in 10 years. U.S. Embassy spokesman Stanley Schrager said a reasonable period of withdrawal "could mean less than three years."

Mt. Pinatubo, however, completely changed the frames of negotiations. It buried Clark under ash, Subic was blanketed by ash, too, but the damage was not as severe.

The volcano is still spewing ash and volcanic activity is expected to continue for the next three years.

After assessing the damage to Clark and Subic, the U.S. Air Force recommended to Pentagon last week that Clark be abandoned.

The assessment team said it would cost at least $520 million to rehabilitate Clark while it would only cost $100 million to close it down and relocate all personnel.

With the continuous intermittent ash emission from Mt. Pinatubo, Crow Valley is off-limits to jet aircraft and therefore useless to the Americans.

Right after the most violent Mt. Pinatubo eruption on June 15, the U.S. Air Force withdrew 4,500 of the 7,000 stationed in the Philippines.

Reliable diplomatic and military sources said the U.S. will keep some token force stationed at Clark to maintain the communication facilities and the runway for C-130 transports.

Despite noises from Washington about closing down Subic, it is believed that the U.S. wants to hold on to it for at least 10 years.

Manglapus said the two principles that guide the Philippine panel in allowing the bases to stay are: first, to allow the U.S. to discharge its responsibilities as a world power, and; second, to secure U.S. help in rebuilding the Philippine economy.

Manglapus said Philippine economic needs increased with the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo. "That element will have to be taken into consideration in entertaining and evaluating any proposals from the U.S.," he said.

The bottom-line is that as long as the U.S. does not back-track on its $360-million offer, the Philippines is willing to let the Americans to stay for 10 more years at Subic.

Mt. Pinatubo has thus simplified the negotiations.

Aquino Appoints Drilon New Executive Secretary

HK1307053191 Hong Kong AFP in English 0519 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Manila, July 13 (AFP)—President Corazon Aquino on Saturday appointed Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon as the new executive secretary, the most powerful post in the Philippine cabinet.

Mr. Drilon, 45, replaces Oscar Orbos, who resigned last week in a controversial gesture that exposed a serious rift in the cabinet over policy issues, notably oil prices and a nine per cent import levy.

Cabinet officials had accused Mr. Orbos of displeasing Mrs. Aquino because he reportedly bypassed her decisions several times and leaked privileged information to the public.

Mr. Drilon, a lawyer who held the Labor Department portfolio before being appointed justice secretary, will be sworn in in his new post Monday, the presidential palace said.

He is the fourth official appointed to the post since Mrs. Aquino assumed power in 1986.

Mr. Drilon, who is rumoured to be eyeing a senatorial candidacy in the May 1992 national elections, told reporters immediately after the palace announcement: "I cannot let politics interfere with my job as this is an important post."

"As long as I am in this position, I will not think of 1992," he said, referring to the national elections next May.

Mr. Drilon, one of Mrs. Aquino's trusted cabinet members, survived a bomb attack in his residence near Manila last year.

The attack was believed to be carried out by right-wing military rebels, but failed to injure him or any of his family members, who were asleep when the planted bombs exploded and damaged the facade of his house.

Mr. Drilon was a partner in one of the country's top law firms before joining the Aquino cabinet in 1986. His previous jobs gained him valuable contacts among big business and conservative labor unions.

Ramos Leaves for Brunei Seeking Disaster Aid

HK1507094091 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 14 Jul 91 pp 1, 24

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos left for Brunei yesterday morning on the personal invitation of ruler Sultan Hadji Hassanal Bolkiah of that oil-rich kingdom who is celebrating his birth anniversary and to meet with defense ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) on matters of regional interest.

The informal ASEAN conference, according to defense department sources, is expected to revolve around the future of the U.S. military facilities in the Philippines and the security of the Southeast Asian region.

Ramos was the only Philippine government official invited to attend the birthday rites of Bolkiah. President Aquino has approved his request to attend the celebrations. He is expected to reurn to Manila on Monday.

Officials said Ramos would take the opportunity to appeal to Brunei and other ASEAN neighbor-countries to increase assistance to the Philippines as a result of the massive destruction caused by the Mt. Pinatubo eruption.

Most of the ASEAN members and other Asian countries have expressed strong support for retention of the bases, saying that the withdrawal of the American forces from Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base would create a "power vacuum" that could undermine the long-term security of the Asia-Pacific region.

The Philippine government is negotiating with the United States on the extended stay of the U.S. military facilities in the country. The two countries are deadlocked on the compensation and duration issues. The RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement (MBA) will expire in September this year.

Ramos has advocated a gradual phase-out ending in 1998, the centennial of Philippine independence, but he admitted that the value of Clark Air Base may have diminished because of the heavy damage inflicted on it by the Mt. Pinatubo eruption.

Ramos however, added that the U.S. still needs Clark and the Subic Naval Base to protect its vast economic and political interests in the Asia-Pacific region. "The United States needs those facilities with or without the volcano," he told reporters before leaving for Brunei.

"The value (of the bases) may have decreased but their strategic importance, vis-a-vis the Asia-Pacific region, is still there," he pointed out.

Ramos stressed that the Philippines is strategically located and serves as the doorway to the economically dynamic and burgeoning Southeast Asian region. "They will not find a place that can match what they have in the Philippines," he said.

Editorial Discusses Ramos' Political 'Game'

HK1507045791 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 15 Jul 91 p 6

[Editorial: "What Kind of Game is Ramos Playing?"]

[Text] Months after the EDSA [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue] Revolt, when the sheen on the principal participants began to fade, not a few military officials were heard to mutter that on the day it all began, it took all of 12 hours for the Armed Forces vice chief of staff, Fidel V. Ramos, to reach a decision on Defense Secretary Juan Ponce Enrile's panicky invitation to join the anti-Marcos barricade being formed at Camp Aguinaldo. "Are you with us?" Ramos was asked early on but it was late in the day before he could answer yes. But he did jump aboard and became a hero.

After the Davide Commission finished its inquiry into the God-Save-the-Queen coup plot, it raised the suspicion that although Ramos, then AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff, had helped to crush it, he had advance knowledge of the plan but had kept this from reaching the ears of President Aquino. She learned of the plot only when it had become too unravelled to be effective. By then, it no longer mattered and Ramos became defense secretary.

Early this year, Ramos ended months of speculation and doffed the soldier's cap for the politician's. He declared he was a candidate for president in 1992 and that he would seek the presidential nomination of the ruling Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino [Struggle of the Philippine Democrats] (LDP), against Speaker Ramon V. Mitra. But it took him all of one month to formally be sworn into the party. He even generated a controversy of sorts—and delayed his LDP swearing-in—by openly identifying himself with a pseudo-party called the United People Power Movement Party.

All the while, he continued to hang on to his Cabinet post which enabled him to travel the length and breadth of the country, ostensibly to oversee our security needs. Nobody believed this, of course, least of all his fellow presidential hopefuls who felt, and rightly so, that he was taking undue advantage of his position to promote his political ends. That Ms. Aquino tolerated the "abuse" has heightened speculations that Ramos is her anointed one. (The clincher will be the expected appointment of former AFP Chief of Staff Renato S. De Villa, a Ramos clone, as the next defense chief.)

"I will not hold you in long suspense," Ramos had repeatedly said as more and more people clamored for his resignation as a matter of principle. But hold everyone in long suspense he did, until a few days ago when he submitted his letter of resignation to the President. He was even facetious, declaring that since he was running for president, he was resigning out of "delicadeza." [courtesy]

Delay and naglalaro [playing] seem to be Ramos' predilections but what game is he really playing? Nobody seems to know for sure. What is evident, however, is that he has now neatly placed his fellow presidential contenders, Mitra and Senate President Jovito R. Salonga, on the spot.

By delaying his exit from the defense department, Ramos spotlighted the resignation issue long enough to whet public interest in it. Although he finally resigned, there is enough residue from the controversy to all on Mitra and Salonga who have also been known to use Air Forces planes in their provincial sorties. If they continue to use the resources of their office to promote their political ends, they could very well generate public sympathy for soon-to-be plain candidate Ramos, who can now proclaim to all and sundry that he is the disadvantaged one.

As the campaign progresses, of course, other, bigger and more important issues will be raised and disputed for the enjoyment of the electorate. But at the moment, with the presidency at stake, Ramos is playing for every advantage and he is playing it pretty well.

Ramos Reportedly Not 'American Lackey'

HK1507092991 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 14 Jul 91 p 24

[Text] Resigned Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos is not an American lackey, Sen. Leticia Ramos-Shahani, chairperson of the Senate foreign relations committee, said yesterday.

Shahani also said she was optimistic that Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino [Struggle of Philippine Democrats] (LDP) delegates will choose Ramos over Speaker Ramon V. Mitra during the LDP November convention.

"Those who attack him as 'Amboy' (American boy) are living in condominiums," Shahani told Senate Reporters.

Ramos graduated from the U.S. West Point before joining the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). The majority of the AFP officers' corps graduated from the Philippine Military Academy (PMA).

The senator from Pangasinan described the Mitra-Ramos fight as a "friendly rivalry."

Shahani admitted that his being a Protestant may pose some problems in a country where Catholics comprise the majority "but many priests and nuns support him."

"He is very popular, that's why many people want to put him down," she added.

Shahani said that her brother is strong with the governors, board members, mayors, councilors, and barangay officials.

Mitra, on the other hand, is strong with members of Congress, Shahani conceded.

She attributed Ramos's strength in the local government units for his having headed the peace and order councils in coordination with the military establishment.

The LDP's strength is greatest with the local government units, she stressed.

Although winning the convention does not necessarily mean winning the elections, Shahani said that what is important is the character of person, such as honesty and integrity.

Ramos broke away from then President Marcos, a cousin, because he is a constitutional soldier, she said.

Estanislao Announces Growth 'Pump-Priming' Plan

HK1507084791 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 15 Jul 91 p 1

[By Staff member Rene de los Reyes]

[Text] The government will do a little pump-priming in the second half of the year to spur economic growth following near stagnation in the first half, Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao announced Friday.

The government has also decided to try to raise revenues and increase savings instead of cutting back on other expenditures through the second semester to cover additional spending required by the Mt. Pinatubo disaster, Estanislao added.

He said the country's economic managers had decided on this course of action because the prospect of higher unemployment, with the displacement of hundreds of thousands of workers in Pinatubo-devastated Central Luzon. "We need to accelerate (GNP) growth to 4% in the second semester after the close-to-zero growth in the first half, if we are to achieve the target real GNP growth of around 2% for the whole year," Estanislao said.

The finance secretary said the government must try to carry out and speed up in the second semester its public-investment program for the year, which has been held up by the delay in the passage of the 1991 General Appropriations Act.

The budget department and the National Economic and Development Authority have planned to advance the second semester's capital expenditures to the third quarter as well as accelerate capital projects in Zambales, Pampanga and Tarlac.

This will require that the expansionary fiscal program in the second semester be accompanied by a further tightening of monetary policy to minimize the inflationary impact of bigger public spending.

Estanislao said a rapid growth in deficit spending from only P3.25 [Philippine peso] billion as of end-June to the limit of P26.6 billion by the year-end should be balanced by contractions in the money supply to prevent commodity prices from soaring.

Accordingly, additional expenditures of P10 billion will be made and considered outside the approved 1991 national budget of P286.8 billion to prevent a ballooning budget deficit.

Estanislao confirmed earlier reports that the fiscal targets, particularly deficit levels, under the economic stabilization program will remain.

"However, the fiscal outlook has been clouded by ongoing developments, and it can only be cleared up if decisions already taken can be carried out," the finance official concluded.

He referred to the plan to make a "respectable portion of the current oil price differential flow to the National Treasury through tariffs, after the OPSF [Oil Price Stabilization Fund] is wiped out."

Estanislao is worried that the revenues to be generated from the scheme could be jeopardized if oil prices are rolled back substantially to their pre Dec. 5 levels. Pump prices of petroleum products were raised by an average of P2.82 per liter on Dec. 5.

Organized labor is preparing to stage a general strike next week to press their demand that President Aquino reduce oil prices by an average of P5 at the most and P1.50 at the least.

Estanislao estimated that every 50-centavo reduction in oil prices would translate to foregone revenues of P6 billion.

"I can afford to lose P6 billion at this point and still keep (the public expenditure program) whole," Estanislao said. "But anything beyond that will require cuts in programmed spendings that could result in low (economic) growth and high unemployment."

He said the finance department could still try to make up for a P6-billion loss in revenues through savings and new revenue measures, but another P6-billion foregone revenues would require the government to scale down the forestry development project, the highways development program, the small coconut farmers development program and fisheries development projects. Such cuts would jeopardize foreign assistance for projects of some $900 million.

Estanislao said that if further cuts were necessary, a number of infrastructure projects to the tune of P2.7 billion would be affected.

Also on Friday, Budget Undersecretary Emilia Boncodin said the government had lowered the programmed budget-deficit ceiling for 1992, from P4.8 billion originally to P3.6 billion, despite suggestions by the National Economic and Development Authoritiy that the defict be increased by P5 billion to cover for Pinatubo spending.

Central Bank [CB] Governor Jose L. Cuisia Jr. said "the finance and budget departments think Mt. Pinatubo spending can be accommodated and saw no need to increase the deficits."

Estanislao said the lowering of the 1992 fiscal-deficit ceiling was the only way to make sure the 1992 consolidated public-sector deficit (CPSD) does not exceed the ceiling of 2.5% of GNP, or P36.1 billion.

He said the deficits of the CB and 14 monitored government corporations are expected to rise in 1992 and had put pressure to cut the national government's own deficit.

He cited the example of the National Power Corp., which requires an infusion of about P7 billion to pay for maturing foreign obligations.

Estanislao said an interagency budget committee decided at a meeting on July 5 to seek closer control of the GOCCs [Government Owned and Controlled Corporations] by appointing a financial controller in five corporations—the

National Electrification Administration, the Natioal Irrigation Administration, National Housing Authority, Local Waterworks and Utilities Administration and the National Food Authority.

Warns Against Oil Price Rollback

HK1507053491 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 15 Jul 91 pp 8

[By Rexie M. Reyes]

[Text] For every 50-centavo decrease in the price of oil products, the government stands to lose P [Philippine pesos] 6.0 billion in revenues, Finance Secretary Jesus P. Estanislao said over the weekend.

The revenue losses will translate into further cuts in government spending which in the long run will be detrimental to the economy, he stressed.

"There will be problems all around without anything really being solved," the finance chief stated. "Social pressure will escalate because unemployment will increase," he added.

Based on the scenario Estanislao painted in a press conference, the first 50-centavo rollback in oil product prices will mean a downscaling of some of the projects of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, highways projects, small coconut development project and fisheries project.

Pushing down the price of oil products by another 50 centavos will mean another P6.0-billion cut in spending for such projects as those in secondary education, projects of the Department of Health, social programs of the Department of Labor and Employment and the Department of Social Works and Development, as well as the flood control program.

Further 50-centavo cuts in the price of oil products from the original P2.05 average hike per liter will mean a slash in the budget by another P6.0 billion for telecommunications projects and National Electrification Authority projects, Estanislao stated.

"I can only afford a 50-centavo oil price rollback," Estanislao said. "Beyond this, you will really start losing."

The oil price rollback, Estanislao explained, will add to the deficit of the national government if no spending cuts are made.

Since the government is sticking to the deficit targets under the economic stabilization program (ESP) and since no new tax revenue measures were approved by Congress, a cut in public investments has to be made once the price of oil products is brought down next month.

The national government deficit for 1991 is programmed to reach P26.6 billion and P3.6 billion next year, based on the ESP projections.

The national government deficit has to be reduced further next year from the adjusted P4.8-billion level "because the only way we can get closer to 2.5 percent of GNP (gross national product) is to give way to an increase in government-owned and -controlled corporations spending."

"We shall be spending on the requirements imposed by Mt. Pinatubo as contingencies dictate," Estanislao said. "The sourcing of funds can be either from savings or from new revenues that can be raised through fiscal reforms," he added.

"If we begin just shouting our heads off and go for the easiest solutions, then there's danger that clouds will not disappear," he said.

The second semester growth is expected to be higher at about 4 percent to meet the average growth target for 1991 of some 2.0 percent, he stated.

The government's public investments programs are very important because once these are cut off, growth targets will not be achievable, Estanislao said.

KMU Announces Nationwide Strike Planned 18 Jul

HK1507040791 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 15 Jul 91 pp 1, 2

[By Jessica Domingo, Merlinda Manalo, and Dionisio Tubianosa]

[Text] The long announced Welga ng Bayan [Nation Wide Strike] of militant labor and transport groups pressing for oil prices cutback would commence on Thursday and last for three days, it was announced by Kilusang Mayo UNO [KMU] leader Crispin Beltran yesterday.

At the same time, the Iglesia ni Cristo (INC) told its followers that the government was "siding with oppressors of the people" (kumakampi sa mga umaapi) to justify its announced July 22 rally for the rollback of oil prices to their pre-December 5 levels.

INC Executive Minister Erano G. Manalo had said that if oil prices would be rolled back to one-half of the December 1990 increases, the INC rally would not take place.

The KMU [1 May movement] and militant labor are pushing for an immediate rollback of P [Philippine pesos]1.92 per liter while their main petition for a rollback of P5 per liter is being decided.

Newly appointed Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon said he would try to dialog with the INC leadership as his predecessor Executive Secretary Oscar Orbos, did before he resigned, and persuade them not to join the welgang. He also warned them against violating the constitutional provision on the separation of the Church and State.

"We will try to persuade them through dialog. We said we are a democracy, they have rights and privileges, like that of demonstrating. However, the government also has the right to protect the people and the country," he said.

In its regular Sunday worship service nationwide, the INC urged its followers to join the rally on July 22 "not for any political motive" but to express the sentiments of the people against the current level of oil prices."

During its Sunday worship service, the INC cautioned its followers "not to pronounce any statement against the leadership of the present administration during the rally, but to stick only to its original purpose of urging the government to rollback prices of petroleum products."

The INC will hold its rally at the Liwasang Bonifacio in Manila along with the KMU and other labor and cause-oriented organizations who have expressed their support for the INC rally.

The country's labor groups and the INC have decided to push through with their nationwide protest following the Aquino government's lukewarm response to their call to roll back oil prices.

The INC said among the people in government who were siding with oppressors were Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao and Central Bank Governor Jose L. Cuisia who entered into "agreements" with the International Monetary Fund to maintain the current level of oil prices, even though a rollback was already feasible. The INC mentioned several new items on the matter.

INC Executive Minister Erano G. Manalo earlier said if the government would immediately reduce oil prices by half the increase made in December last year, then it would call off the rally.

"We decided to hold a three-day general strike all over the country in the wake of the government's continuing insensitivity to our demands," Beltran said after meeting with leaders of different multisectoral groups at the University of the Philippines School of Labor and Industrial Relations yesterday afternoon.

Beltran said the sustained strike would be participated in by the Pagkakaisa ng mga Samahhan ng mga Tsuper at Opereytor Nationwide (Piston), Philippine Confederation of Drivers Associations-Alliance of Concerned Transport Organizations (PCDO-ACTO), Federation of Tricycle Operators and Drivers Associations in Metro Manila, KMU's 164 affiliate unions in Metro Manila. He said labor and transport groups in the provinces had expressed readiness to participate in the welgang bayan.

Outside the labor sector, the KMU has also gained the support of religious groups, namely, the United Church of Christ in the Philippines, National Council of Churches of the Philippines, and Philippine Independent Church.

Beltran said the conservative Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP) had been invited to join the strike.

The TUCP earlier assured Mrs. Aquino that they would not join the welgang bayan.

General Abadia Threatens New Wave of Crackdowns

HK1507055491 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 15 Jul 91 pp 1, 2

[By Dario B. Agnote]

[Text] General Lisandro C. Abadia, Armed Forces chief of staff, has threatened to launch a new wave of crackdowns against coup leader Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan and the four other "most- wanted" rebel officers should they continue to ignore the government's peace initiative with the right-wing forces.

With Honasan and the mutinous forces still at large, Abadia said foreign investors remained reluctant to invest in the country. Already, Abadia said, the country had lost P120 [Philippine pesos] billion in the past months as well as $10 billion in potential investments due to the right-wing threat.

Honasan, Abadia admitted had become "bigger than himself," and "although the ultra-rightist problem has already been marginalized, investors are still reluctant to venture into business" in the country.

Abadia has not captured a single rebel officer since he assumed office three months ago. All the top coup leaders had been bagged either during the time of former Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] chiefs of staff General Renato S. De Villa or General Rodolfo G. Biazon.

Abadia, apparently growing impatient with right-wing rebels, has issued the fresh warning against the fugitive coup leaders and the rebel soldiers who have virtually ignored the peace offer of the government which the AFP first made last May.

In an effort to bring Honasan and the other coup leaders to the negotiating table, Abadia initiated talks to patch up differences with the right-wing forces. But the effort proved futile.

"I cannot wait forever," Abadia told elements of the Army's 4th Infantry Division during a weekend dialog at Camp Evangelista in Cagayan de Oro City.

"The AFP is prepared to again apply its full force" to get leaders of the Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabayan [Reform The Armed Forces Movement]-Soldiers of the Filipino People (RAM-SFP)."

Abadia said it was Honasan and the other mutinous officers and soldiers who were causing the further deterioration of the country's economy, and not the communist insurgents.

Honasan, who carries a P5-million cash reward for his capture, led the bloody August 28, 1987 and December 1989 coup attempts which came close to toppling the government. Other coup leaders who are still at large are Eduardo "Red" Kapunan, Domingo Calajate, Felix Turingan, and Jose Maria Zumel.

Military records showed that there were less than 70 rebel soldiers still at large who could be mobilized by the right-wing leadership should they decide to mount another destabilization attempt against the Aquino government.

But Abadia, who earlier admitted that the military was still not 100 percent united, continues to dismiss the right-wing threat as nil. "They can no longer mount a coup similar to the August 1987 and December 1989 coups," he said.

Intelligence Operatives Capture Communist Leader

HK0807013691 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 6 Jul 91

[By Fernan Imberga of DZRH Unit No. 22]

[Text] A high-ranking official of the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] and member of the ruling Central Committee of the party fell into the hands of military intelligence operatives in Cebu City.

Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Lisandro Abadia identified the captured rebel leader as Romulo Paz, 40 years old, who has been using the aliases Salvador Paz and Rolando Benevidez.

Paz, who has a 500,000 pesos reward on his head, was captured by the combined elements of the intelligence service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, Military Intelligence Group 7 and Cebu City PNP [Philippine National Police] command in Barangay Batak, Cebu City.

It was known that Paz was born in Oroquieta City and studied business management at the University of the Philippines Los Banos until he became a member of Kabataang Makabayan [Patriotic Youth] in 1971. He became a member of the CPP-NPA [New People's Army] in 1972 at Zamboanga del Sur and handled the following positions: secretary of the Monterosa guerrilla front, chairman of the western front committee and northwestern Mindanao regional party committee, until he became chairman of the Mindanao commission in 1986.

Meanwhile, General Abadia said that the capture of Romulo Paz is another slap to the CPP-NPA leadership and a proof of the communist movement's decline and weakening.

Police Claim NPA Propaganda Offensive Underway

HK1307065291 Davao City THE MINDANAO MIRROR BULLETIN in English 8 Jul 91 p 21

[Text] Davao City—Communist rebels, aiming to exploit difficulties spawned by natural calamities, are stepping up a propaganda offensive to shake public faith in the government.

This was disclosed yesterday by Police Superintendent Pedro Camba Jr., newly-installed spokesman of the regional police command under Brig. Gen. Manuel Salimbangon.

He said leftists have used the standard issues of high prices and military abuses to pave the way for massive demonstrations by the labor and youth sectors.

"Intelligence information shows tha the CPP/NPA [Communist Party of the Philippines/New People's Army] is infiltrating legitimate labor, student/youth and religious organizations to be used as their fronts (in staging) simultaneous demonstrations and strikes to sabotage industries and the economy of the region," Camba said.

He said leftists ultimately aim to destabilize government functions.

"But they will fail as they have failed in the past," Camba said.

He said the emergence of "DCPLINA [expansion unknown] and the Love Movement" has given the government new opportunities to promote the value of discipline, love of god and fellowmen and to support the duly-constituted government.

Camba disclosed that Brig. Gen. Manuel Salimbangon has also instructed him "to match words with action" by strengthening dialogues with concrete projects that alleviate poverty in the countryside.

NPA Commander Pagbilao Surrenders to Military

HK0907043891 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 9 Jul 91 p 8

[By Ped Velasco]

[Text] Davao City—A New People's Army (NPA) commander in North Cotabato yesterday surrendered to civilian and military authorities in Tagum, Davao del Norte.

In a report to Chief Superintendent Manuel Salimbangon, Philippine National Police (PNP) regional director, Superintendent Ricardo de Leon, Davao del Norte PNP director, identified the commander as Rogelio Pagbilao, 30, alias "Ka [Comrade] Adan," who has a P250,00 [Philippine pesos] reward for his capture.

Pagbilao, secretary of Front 53 of the NPA in North Cotabato, surrendered to Tagum Mayor Victorio Suaybaguio Jr.

Police said Pagbilao was the commander of the "Thunder Group" of the NPA in Davao del Norte before he was transferred to North Cotobato.

De Leon said Pagbilao was responsible for the killing of at least 15 soldiers and civilians in Davao del Norte, particularly in Tagum and Macao towns.

NPA Denies Korean Priest Joined Movement

HK1207015091 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] The National Democratic Front-New People's Army [NDF-NPA] in Southern Mindanao denied a report stating that a Korean priest, who has been missing for several months, has joined the movement. This was stated in a letter signed by Edwin Bergano, NDF representative in the province. The letter said that Korean priest Kim Jung-pen did not join the movement nor was he kidnapped by the NPA because this is against their principles.

Ifugao Mayors Oppose Local Peace Zone Plan

HK1507083891 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 15 Jul 91 p 7

[By Hilarion Pawid]

[Text] Nine mayors in Ifugao's ten towns have vehemently opposed proposals made by provincial officials to declare a zone of peace in the province.

It was learned that preliminary talks had been held with military leaders and ranking officers of the New Peoples' Army [NPA] towards an agreement declaring the towns of Kiangan and Tinoc as peace zones. The two towns are located in the southern part of the province accessible to Nueva Vizcaya in the east and Benguet in the southwest.

The mayors said a peace zone would only provide a safe haven for communist rebels.

A resolution they submitted to Ifugao Rep. Gualberto Lumauig cited the experience of Sagada in the Mountain Province which, after being made a peace zone, became a vital NPA headquarter in Northern Luzon.

Last week, government forces raided the headquarters in Sagada killing 17 rebels and wounding seveeral others. Anti-narcotics agents also raided and burned several hectares of marijuana plants near the headquarters which was believed to be a NPA farm.

The mayors said that it was unthinkable that such a proposal which would be beneficial mainly to the communist insurgents should come from government officials.

They said the peace zones would only convert other towns into a battle ground between government and rebel forces while sparing the two towns included in the peace zone from which the rebels would carry on operations.

Mayor Marcelo Humecgoy of Aguinaldo, who was kidnaped for ransom by the NPA four years ago, said the peace zone proposal would be counterproductive in the insurgency campaign.

The Aguinaldo mayor, whose town was once taken over by the NPA, said the rebels should not be given options for survival unless they surrender to the authorities.

Mayor Philip Lacbawan of Hugduan, another rebel-infested town, also opposed the idea of giving a refuge to rebels where they would become practically untouchable to military operations.

Police Capture Five Mindoro NPA Rebel Camps

HK1507062891 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 15 Jul 91 pp 1, 10

[By Robert A. Evora]

[Text] Calapan, Oriental Mindoro—The New People's Army (NPA) led by the Lucio de Guzman Command is now on the run following the capture of five major guerrilla camps in the mountains of Oriental and Occidental Mindoro, police authorities announced.

Superintendent Jaime L. Lasar, the newly installed Oriental Mindoro Philippine National Police [PNP]director replacing Superintendent Edmundo Aquino, said that the fall of the five rebel camps, including a medical camp, is an "overwhelming blow" against the armed communist movement.

Lasar added it will "signal the end of the 22-year-old insurgency problem in Mindoro."

The five guerilla camps, complete with bunkers, training rooms, officers' quarters, and helipads, were overrun recently by government troopers in the municipalities of Abra de Ilog, Bongabong, and Bulalacao, Oriental Mindoro.

Lasar said that helicopter gunships, dispatched by the Composite Air Support Force of the Philippine Air Force, later destroyed the captured camps, including training and guerrilla warfare facilities.

The PNP official said that despite the capture of the camps, the government security forces still have to launch a "search and destroy" operation against an estimated 16 more NPA camps, detachments, resting areas, and stations in the province's forests.

"Despite the reported advantage of government forces over the NPA rebels, insurgency remains the most serious and the Number One threat to the stability and peace and order of the province," Lasar said.

Chief Superintendent Umberto Rodriguez, Task Force Mina de Oro commander, ordered Lasar and Superintendent Jundam Abdullah, Occidental Mindoro PNP director, to continue to identify, locate and desttroy the remaining NPA strongholds on Mindoro island.

Rodriguez arrived here with a battalion of PNP Special Action Force (SAF) and the PNP Field Force personnel from Camp Crame and Camp Vicente Lim, Laguna, to beef up the 24 police augmentation companies which are helping local troopers in the counter-insurgency campaign.

Two 105-millimeter Howitzer cannons, five mortars, machine gun-mounted Hummer vehicles (Humvees), and a mobile communication system were also brought here in preparation for a major offensive to be launched by the PNP this year.

Thailand

Official: ASEAN Closer To Accepting EAEG

BK1507012391 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Jul 91 p 1

[By Natthaya Chetchotirot in Kuala Lumpur]

[Text] ASEAN appears to be moving closer towards accepting a Malaysian proposal to form an East Asia Economic Group [EAEG], although not in its original form, according to Foreign Ministry Permanent Secretary Witthaya Wetchachiwa.

The ASEAN Foreign Ministers are expected to discuss the EAEG proposal during their annual meeting in Kuala Lumpur on Friday and Saturday.

ASEAN has not yet adopted an official stand on the proposal first raised by Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed. The regional organisation has agreed, however, to study the issue further.

A working group of senior ASEAN officials was set up in May to study and forge a common stand on the proposal which will be submitted to the ministers during their meeting this week.

The proposal foresees ASEAN, Japan, China, South Korea, Hong Kong and Taiwan joining as an economic group.

Prime Minister Mahathir in March said the group is necessary because ASEAN countries are too small to be heard by Europe and the United States.

He said then that something needs to be done to counter rising protectionism and that Asian countries need to group together to "level the playing field."

The proposal in its original form drew considerable criticism and reservations within ASEAN members.

Although Malaysia has repeatedly denied the idea will lead to formation of a trade bloc, the United States has been critical of the proposal. Japan is cautious.

Indonesia expressed reservations when the proposal was first raised.

The proposal was viewed as an attempt to create a bargaining chip and questions were raised as to its role, particularly when ASEAN and other nations were trying to work out details of another regional group, the Asia-Pacific Economic Forum [APEC] proposed by Australia.

But Mr Witthaya told the BANGKOK POST there is now more acceptance among ASEAN of the EAEG proposal, especially after suggestions that the proposed group's focus lies not only on economic factors but also political and socio-economic issues.

"ASEAN has realised that the issue can be approached in a way not limited to economic issues but also these other issues," he said.

"The trend towards acceptance of the idea (the EAEG proposal) appears closer, that the organisation can adopt an 'issue-approach'—dealing with issues of common interest," he said.

Mr Witthaya said Thailand's position is that "we should not close the door and reject the option, especially if the proposal was made from a fellow ASEAN member. We see some positive prospects."

He said Malaysia is ready to expand the idea. Malaysia is ready to listen to fellow ASEAN members.

Japan and China have not adopted a definite stance. Japan especially has to consider the position of the United States and usually waits to see the ASEAN stance.

"We know that Japan has massive benefits with the United States and the European Community.

"If the proposal is antagonistic towards the US and the European Community, it is certain that Japan will not support the idea.

"But no one can predict the future. US-Japanese relations are not as smooth as relations between the US and China.

"Therefore, we should explore and entertain another option," he said, adding that he expects the EAEG proposal to be raised during the ASEAN Summit in January.

"We must also set an overall strategy because it will refelct the new economic outlook of ASEAN."

Mr Witthaya said Malaysian officials had explained that the EAEG could act as a bridge between APEC and the North American Free Trade Area (the US, Canada and Mexico).

"This in itself justifies the formation and existence of the EAEG and also APEC," Mr Witthaya said, adding there have been recent indications that countries which expressed doubts over the proposal are becoming more positive, particularly Indonesia, which understands the prospects better.

Thailand also supports further study since it can be another beneficial option in the fluid circumstances prevailing, he said.

U.S. Labor Union To Withhold Trade Complaint

BK1407022391 Bangkok THE NATION in English 14 Jul 91 p A1

[Text] An American labour group has agreed to withhold its demand for the United States Government to remove Thailand's privileges under the Generalized System of Preferences pending the Thai Government's decision on the proposed establishment of a labour ministry, according to a senior labour official.

Deputy Labour Director General Prasit Chaithongphan said yesterday he was told by representatives of the American Federation of Labour and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) that the group would want to see the upgrading of the Labour Department to a ministry-level agency.

"The AFL-CIO said the proposed establishment of a labour ministry was considered a positive development that would demonstrate the Thai Government's determination to improve its efficiency in handling labour issues," Prasit said.

The deputy labour director general said he told the labour group's representatives that the Interior Ministry was in the process of drawing up a proposal for the upgrading of the Labour Department.

He said the AFL-CIO was satisfied with the Thai Government's move and therefore would withhold their complaint earlier scheduled to be considered by the Office of the US Trade Representative next month.

The American labour group has accused the Thai Government of violating basic workers' rights in disbanding all state enterprise unions and denying employees in the public sector the right to impose work stoppages.

The deputy director general was speaking at a seminar participated in by 5,000 police officers at the Bangkok Bank's headquarters building yesterday. The seminar was designed to familiarize the officers with the latest developments in labour issues and advise them on how to enforce the new law governing state enterprise workers' labour associations.

The National Peacekeeping Council, which toppled the civilian Chatchai Administration in February this year, reasoned that state enterprise unions were an impediment to the country's economic development.

The unionists of state enterprises, which control basic public services like electricity, tap water and transport, had reportedly acquired enough power to be able to intimidate civilian governments prior to the February coup.

45,000-Tonne Rice Deal Concluded With Iraq

BK1207145091 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] At the Commerce Ministry this afternoon, Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on told a news conference about the results of a Thai trade delegation's visit to Iraq for talks on a rice deal last week. He said the private sector had concluded a contract to sell 45,000 tonnes of 15 percent white rice to the Rice Organization of Iraq. The rice purchase will be paid by cash and the delivery will be made between 20 July and 10 August. This is the first direct rice sale to Iraq after the end of the Gulf war. The deal is expected to help boost rice prices in the local market and help farmers to sell their paddy at better prices.

[Begin Amaret recording] This is the first direct rice sale to Iraq after the end of the Gulf war. The Commerce Ministry has long before considered Iraq and other Middle East countries as major rice markets for Thailand. We will try to maintain this Thai rice market for as long as possible. [end recording]

'Top-level Meeting' To Review Murder Probe

BK1407044091 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Jul 91 p 1

[Text] The government has scheduled a top-level meeting on Tuesday to hear progress of investigations into the murder of Saudi Consul 'Abdallah Al-Bisri on February 1 last year.

Central Investigation Bureau commissioner Pol [Police] Lt-Gen Thanu Homhuan, who was appointed by Police Chief Gen Sawat Amonwiwat on June 13 to head a 31-man committee to investigate the case, said yesterday he will report progress to Deputy Prime Minister Pol Gen Pao Sarasin who heads a national-level committee handling the case.

Relations between Thailand and Riyadh soured following the murder of three Saudi diplomats on February 1 last year. The Saudi government refused to issue re-entry visas to Thai workers and to issue entry visas for new workers.

Al-Bisri was shot dead by a gunman with a 6.35 mm pistol in Soi Yen Akat II, which comes under the jurisdiction of Thung Mahamek police.

About the same time two other Saudi diplomats, Second Secretary Fahd Al-Bahli and telex operator Ahmad Al-Sa'if, were gunned down with a 6.35 mm pistol in Soi Keng Chuan off Nang Linchi Road, only a kilometre from the scene of the first killing.

A suspect, Suchat Herabi, was arrested in March last year on a charge of being an accomplice in the killings of Al-Bahli and Al-Sa'if.

The Criminal Court is scheduled to give its verdict on the trial of Suchat this Friday.

Pol Lt-Gen Thanu said his committee has battled against time and the investigation is nearly complete. The only thing left is to seek permission to issue warrants for the arrest of suspects but details cannot be disclosed yet.

On Tuesday afternoon he will present a report, detailing conclusions, on the progress of the case to Pol Gen Pao at Government House.

Other members of Pol Gen Pao's committee include Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin, Police Chief Gen Sawat Amonwiwat and high-level Government members.

Pol Lt-Gen Thanu said he has sought permission from the Saudi government to lead a police team to Riyadh to question a witness who was a diplomat working at the Saudi Embassy in Bangkok and has been transferred home.

"As an investigator, I will go to Saudi Arabia in the name of the Government. We are ready to go once we get permission," Pol Lt-Gen Thanu said.

Pol Lt-Gen Thanu's team will seek details about jewellery stolen from the palace of Prince Faysal bin 'Abdallah Fahd in Saudi Arabia by Thai worker Kriangkrai Techamong between June 20 and August 9, 1989.

Kriangkrai was sentenced to five years' jail last year for the theft, but a considerable portion of the jewellery retrieved and returned to the owner was said to be fake and the genuine items are missing.

Foreign Minister Meets With Cambodia's Chea Sim

BK1307143791 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin had a meeting with Chea Sim, National Assembly chairman of the Phnom Penh regime, at the Regent Hotel this morning. Chea Sim thanked the Thai Government for playing a leading role in seeking a peace settlement for Cambodia. He asked Thailand to keep up its role. He said that the meeting in Bejing would pave the way for further implementation of the agreements reached at the Phatthaya meeting. This would contribute, more or less, to the peace settlement, although a full achievement cannot be expected from this meeting since all top leaders will not be present at the forum. He said that Cambodia badly needs help, especially humanitarian help.

The foreign minister said that he wished to see peace return to Cambodia soon. Yet, he noted that it all depends on whether the Khmer factions would be able to reach an agreement. Thailand wished to see the earliest possible settlement so that confidence could be restored to the countries wishing to provide assistance to Cambodia. Thailand is willing to assist all Khmer factions in the development of agriculture and tourism, for example.

The foreign minister is scheduled to visit Cambodia in late November at the invitation of Prince Sihanouk. Prior to that, a team of Thai officials will be sent to Cambodia to inspect the site of the Thai Embassy. Foreign Minister Asa asked Cambodia to find a proper site for Thailand to set up an embassy.

Secessionist Suspect Arrested in Malaysia

BK1307145391 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Srawut Sakunasantisat, a Muslim Shi'ite leader charged with lese majeste and inciting disturbances in Tambon Kruze, Muang District, Pattani Province last year, has been arrested by Malaysian police and will be extradited to Thailand in a few days. Lieutenant General Kitti Rattanachaya, commander of the 4th Army Region, reported to newsmen in Yala Province today.

[Begin recording, in progress] [Kitti] He is a leading Shi'ite Muslim member who was charged with lese majeste at Kruze Mosque. He fled, following the issue of a warrant for his arrest. Now he has been arrested by the Malaysian police in Alor Setar for illegal entry and carrying a fake passport. I contacted the authorities Kuala Lumpur last night asking them to keep him in custody. Under Malaysia's law, a case of illegal entry would be subject to only a fine of 500 baht and then released. We asked Malaysia to keep him in custody, and we are taking him back for trial.

[Unidentified reporter] Was the other suspect, Phairot Saraphiban, also arrested with him?

[Kitti] No, only one arrested. [end recording]

NPKC: Election by Early 1992 'at Latest'

BK1507062391 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] At 1000 today, General Sunthon Khongsomphong, the supreme commander and chairman of the National Peace-Keeping Council [NPKC], chaired an NPKC meeting to acknowledge [rapsap] government performance in the past four months. A major topic of discussion at the meeting was the progress of the constitution drafting process to ensure the holding of elections within 1991 or early 1992 at the latest. The drafting of the constitution must be completed by 15 August and, therefore, special emphasis on the matter was given during the meeting.

Vietnam

Government Support Statement for Phatthaya Accord

BK1307155391 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1452 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] On 26 June 1991, the Cambodia SNC Supreme National Council [SNC] meeting which was held in Phatthaya, Thailand, issued a final announcement in which Cambodian factions agreed to implement an indefinite cease-fire and promised not to receive any military aid from foreign countries as of 24 June 1991.

Right after that, on 27 June 1991, Prince Sihanouk issued a statement appealing to foreign countries to immediately stop giving military aid to Cambodian factions and not to allow the shipment of weapons to Cambodia via their territories.

On 29 June 1991 Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Cambodian Government, sent a letter to Prince Sihanouk confirming total support of the Cambodian Government for the above-mentioned statement.

On 11 July 1991 the Ministry of Foreign Relations of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] issued an announcement pledging to stop military aid to Cambodia and not to allow foreign countries to transport weapons to Cambodia via its territory.

The SRV Government welcomes and fully supports all the aforementioned accords and statements of the SNC as well as the stand of the LPDR in this issue which was mentioned in the 11 July 1991 statement.

In the past years, Vietnam has done all it could to promptly reach a political solution to the Cambodian issue. Most important of all was that Vietnam unilaterally withdrew all its troops from Cambodia in 1989. Vietnam has also expressed its stand several times to fully support the Soviet and U.S. initiatives to temporarily suspend military aid to the Cambodian sides.

Vietnam asserts that it is ready to pledge together with Laos and Thailand not to let foreign countries ship military aid to the Cambodian side through its territory. Once again: Vietnam solemnly states its pledge to stop military aid to Cambodia and not to let foreign countries ship weapons through its territory to Cambodia.

At the same time, it calls on other countries concerned to do the same. Vietnam is ready to agree on a form of effective international control over the implementation of all sides' commitments on this issue.

Vietnam welcomes the results of the recent Phattaya meeting and hopes the upcoming SNC meetings will continue to progress to peacefully settle the Cambodian issue. For its part, Vietnam will continue together with other countries to make positive contributions to promptly reach an overall political solution to Cambodia on the basis of respect for Cambodia's sovereignty; in keeping with the UN Charter; and in conformity with the legitimate interests of the Cambodian people and the interests of peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia and the world.

Hun Sen Stops in Hanoi en Route to Beijing

BK1507064891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0632 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Hanoi, July 15 (AFP)—Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen met with Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach here Monday, the day before he is due to make his first trip to Beijing for a meeting of the Cambodian factions, a diplomatic source said.

Mr. Hun Sen was due here Sunday but had to delay his arrival until Monday because of a typhoon affecting northern Vietnam which forced him to land in Laos, the source said.

The Cambodian prime minister met Mr. Thach and two deputy foreign ministers, Le Mai and Nguyen Dy Nien, at Noi Bai Airport to discuss developments in Cambodia, the source said.

Vietnam, the main backer of the Phnom Penh government, reiterated Sunday it was prepared to end military aid and accept international control.

Hanoi also reiterated its support for the current peace process which is aimed at ending the more than 12-year civil war in Cambodia.

The Supreme National Council [SNC], which includes representatives from each of the three resistance parties and the Phnom Penh government, recently agreed on an unlimited ceasefire and an end to foreign arms shipments.

After the Beijing meeting, Mr. Hun Sen is due to visit Pyongyang with Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the SNC chairman and head of the resistance which includes his supporters, those of former Prime Minister Son Sann and the militarily powerful Khmer Rouge.

Diplomatic sources have said Prince Sihanouk had suggested to Mr. Hun Sen that after the North Korean visit the two should visit Hanoi, but Cambodian Foreign Minister Hor Namhong recently said the proposal had not yet been agreed.

Further on Discussions Held

BK1507114391 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] The State of Cambodia delegation led by Hun Sen, member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP] Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers, stopped over in Hanoi today on its way to an unofficial meeting of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia in Beijing.

Accompanying Comrade Hun Sen were two SNC members of the State of Cambodia: Foreign Minister Hor Nam Hong and deputy chief of the KPRP Central Committee office Im Chhunlim, as well as many other high-ranking cadres.

Welcoming and seeing the delegation off at Noi Bai International Airport were Comrades Nguyen Co Thach, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister; Nguyen Dy Nien, party Central Committee member and vice foreign minister; Le Mai, vice foreign minister, Cambodian Ambassador to Vietnam Uch Borit; and many cadres from the Cambodian Embassy.

Nguyen Co Thach, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, cordially exchanged views with Chairman Hun Sen and his suite. Both sides exchanged views on the recent progress toward the settlement of the Cambodian problem as well as future efforts to promptly reach an overall political solution to the problem.

The Vietnamese side much appreciated the correct stand and attitude of goodwill on the part of the State of Cambodia, welcomed the results of the recent SNC meeting Phattaya, Thailand, and hoped that the unofficial SNC meeting in Beijing would obtain good results and contribute to accelerating the process toward a fair and reasonable solution of the Cambodian problem on the basis of respect for Cambodia's sovereignty and in keeping with the UN Charter.

The Cambodian side underlined the attitude of peaceful goodwill, as well as the relentless efforts, of the State of Cambodia to promptly reach an overall solution to the Cambodian issue in conformity with the legitimate interests of the Cambodian people and in the interest of peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation in Southeast Asia and the world.

The exchange of views took place in a very cordial atmosphere, imbued with friendship and fraternal Vietnam-Cambodia solidarity.

The delegation left Hanoi the same day for Beijing.

Do Muoi Receives Japanese, Urges Economic Ties

BK1207153591 Hanoi VNA in English 1507 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 12—Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi received here this afternoon a delegation of the Japan-Vietnam Parliamentary Friendship Alliance led by Sakurauchi Yoshio, speaker of the Japanese House of Representatives.

Japanese Ambassador to Vietnam Hiroyuki Yusita was present.

Chairman Do Muoi welcomed the Japanese parliamentarians and expressed his joy at the fine result of the meetings of the guests with the Commission for External Relations of the National Assembly, the Foreign Ministry and the State Planning Commission.

He expressed his wish for further development of the economic cooperation between Vietnam and Japan in the interests of the people in each country.

The chairman asked Mr. Sakurauchi Yoshio and his party to convey his best regards to Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and the other parliamentarians in the alliance.

Earlier in the day, the Japanese delegation was received by chairman of the National Assembly Le Quang Dao.

Japanese Firm Marubeni Opens Office in Hanoi

BK1207152991 Hanoi VNA in English 1431 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 12—The Japanese trade corporation Marubeni has opened its office in Hanoi, the 34th so far of Japanese firms in Vietnam.

Marubeni is one of the Japanese trade corporations which are doing business with Vietnam, mainly in mining, oil, coal and coffee production. In Vietnam, it has two representative offices in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City.

At the inaugural ceremony held here last evening, Marubeni Director Watanabe said he hoped this event would help enhance mutually beneficial cooperative and trade relations between Japanese and Vietnamese companies.

Group Sends China Sympathy Message Over Floods

BK1307142391 Hanoi VNA in English 1317 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 13—The Vietnam-China Friendship Association today sent a message of sympathy to its Chinese counterpart over the human and material losses caused by recent heavy rains and floods to some provinces in China.

DPRK Envoy Marks Friendship, Solidarity

BK1207152391 Hanoi VNA in English 1500 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 12—A talk was arranged here today by the Vietnam-DPRK Friendship Association, the Vietnam AAPSO Committee and the Vietnam Committee for Support of DPRK on occasion of the month of solidarity with the Korean people.

The charge d'affaires a.i. of the DPRK, Yi Kwan-il, and other members of the DPRK Embassy in Hanoi were present.

Also on this occasion, the Vietnam-DPRK Friendship Association inaugurated the Vietnam-Korea Friendship Club, which groups those who had studied and worked in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Hau Giang Delegate Speaks at 7th Party Congress

BK1507105391 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 4 Jul 91

[Statement by To Buu Giam, Hau Giang Provincial Delegate to the Seventh Party Congress Held 24-27 June in Hanoi Ba Dinh Conference Hall—recorded]

[Summary] Dear delegates: To avoid wasting time, I will skip the part on cultural and social issues in the documents on which we have agreed and will only illustrate them by reference to the actual situation in our Hau Giang Province.

The quality of education in our province is very poor. Students must take private lessons from their teachers. This situation has compelled children to relearn the lessons superficially explained in classes and has caused their parents to spend more money on their education. Those poor children who can not afford private tutors can not catch up with their classmates and are reluctant to meet their teachers. "This situation alone has made teachers look like businessmen to students."

Income has not been fairly distributed to cadres, administrative employees and workers in business and production domains. While large numbers of people are leading a very difficult life, others can live very comfortably on their income. "Such unfair distribution of income has somewhat undermined solidarity within the party. Moreover, it has led some people to arrive at the very pragmatic conclusion that they must be selective and apply for assignments to those lucrative trades and jobs to ensure adequate living not only for themselves but also for their families."

This thinking on the part of adults has contaminated the children, who have also become choosy in learning and compete only in those trades and sectors which can yield high incomes, such as exports, tourism, customs, taxation, and so on.

"With a view to quickly solving the cultural and social problems and creating better conditions for localities, including our province, to fulfill this task, we would like to petition the congress and the seventh party Central Committee on the following points:

"1. An overall review should be promptly made to definitively assess the recent policy on educational reform of our state." I recommend that Marxism-Leninism be made a mandatory subject for students in school.

"2. Strict regulations should be promulgated for the publication of books, magazines, films, and other cultural works." The publication and circulation of noxious cultural works must be forbidden.

"3. A law should be promulgated to combine three environments in the education of younger generations: family, school, and society."

"4. Legal stipulations should be established to severely deal with cases of serious ethical violations such as parricide and uxoricide in order to set examples for the whole of society."

"5. The seventh party Central Committee is requested to hold an early plenum and adopt a resolution on the cultural and social issues."

Army Daily Decries Increasing Smuggling Problem

BK1407150791 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 9 Jul 91

[QUAN DOI NHAN DAN article: "Smuggling Is Still a Burning Issue in Socioeconomic Life"—date not given]

[Text] In fact, smuggling activities have reached a high level and occur on a very large scale. According to an investigative report, the value of goods smuggled across the border into our country was 1,000 billion dong in 1989, 1,500 billion dong in 1990, and 300 billion dong in the first quarter of 1991. At the present time, smuggling activities continue to increase countrywide, and are especially serious in the border areas, along the sea routes, and in major cities such as Ho Chi Minh, Hanoi, Haiphong and Danang. Smugglers deal in any type of commodities, provided they can make a large profit—in total disregard of the damage they cause to domestic production and the livelihood of the people.

Large amounts of hard foreign currency, gold, antiques, gems, and forest and maritime products have been smuggled abroad in order to import consumer and luxury goods. Smugglers can be found in all economic sectors, even in agencies, factories and mass organizations. They have take optimum advantage of all the loopholes in policies and laws, all vulnerabilities of the state economy, and any shortcomings in the state management organization, so that they can operate in many ways. By exporting and importing illegally, evading and cheating on taxes, undermining socioeconomic life , security, and national defense, they have caused the state to suffer great losses of budgetary revenues, caused domestic production to slump, and promoted the consumption of foreign goods.

In the past few months, smugglers have notoriously increased their activities. In the north, they have used many boats and ships to illicitly export copper, iron and scrap supplies. In the southwestern border area, many Thai boats and ships have encroached on our waters to poach fish and to smuggle. In particular, overseas Vietnamese have also increased their smuggling activities through the sea routes and airlines. Many smuggling operations have been conducted on a large scale. Most serious were: the smuggling of 2.4 kg of opium by Dao Thi Hong in the 12th ward of Tan Binh Precinct, Ho Chi Minh City; the case of a foreigner who surreptitiously passed a pack of rubies and $101,000 to Trinh Thi Trien, a salewoman of the shop at 39 Trang Tien Street; and the detection by Ho Chi Minh City's market management authorities of an illegal deal in gold and foreign currencies at house No 328B on Phan Dinh Phung Street, when 56 troy ounces of gold, $15,000 and 260 million dong were impounded.

Overall, smuggling activities are still intensive, and tend to increase as many more subtle and complex maneuvers are used with respect to some types of goods. The state, functional agencies, and the administration have issued many directives, policies and measures to oppose smuggling; they have established antismuggling organizations and forces, and have achieved some results. However, the smuggling activities still continue and the results of the struggle against smuggling are still limited because, primarily, some sectors and echelons have not been united in their determination to oppose smuggling.

The mechanisms, policies, and the decentralization of managerial control over the budget and export taxes are still illogical and allow some localities and business organizations to capitalize on them and operate illicitly. The struggle against smuggling is everyone's duty, but this has been recently conducted only by state agencies and has not been coordinated with mass organizations. We have not been able to mobilize large numbers of the masses to join in the struggle.

Moreover, in the recent past, antismuggling efforts have not been unified, either economically or administratively. As a result, at one stage they were active and positive; at another, relaxed and neglected. In particular, shortcomings and weaknesses in the balances between production and consumption, between cash and commodities, and between export and import, and other loopholes and weaknesses of state economic organizations in production and trade have created a good ground on which smugglers can operate and develop.

It is noteworthy that antismuggling forces have not coordinated with one another closely. In many cases, they have still not relied on one another. Professional antismuggling forces are weak both qualitatively and quantitatively. In opposing smuggling, emphasis is still placed on administrative punishment. Very few cases have been tried criminally. Many cases have taken time and have been prolonged before they could be tried, and then they were tried with insufficient severity, making the people lose faith, blunting the educational effect of deterrence, and allowing smugglers to always find a loophole to accelerate their activities.

Smuggling always poses a threat to the economy and usually disturbs the security and socio-political situation. Smuggling is normally closely linked to corruption. As a result, it increases the extent and type of illicit activities and becomes more dangerous. The pressing problem now is to determine clearly that the antismuggling task is the duty of all sector commanders and the People's Committee chairmen of all localities.

Whichever sectors and localities are affected with smuggling, the authorities there must fight the evil and be responsible for their own units. In fighting smuggling, we must apply uniformly economic, administrative, ideological, and organizational measures to promote the development of production and expand the circulation of goods with foreign countries, without closing our doors to, nor forbidding, marketing. Moreover, those agencies responsible for fighting smuggling must be consolidated and revamped both qualitatively and quantitatively in order to have enough ability to carry out their duties.

The state economic agencies and organizations under no circumstances engage in smuggling nor condone private traders to take advantage of them in order to run illicit businesses. The widespread situation of increased smuggling activities is a painful problem that is actually destroying domestic production. The antismuggling issue remains a current burning task that must be performed regularly and immediately to create conditions for the domestic economy to gradually stabilize.

National Data on Agricultural Land Changes

BK1307105791 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] The General Department of Land Management completed a nationwide collection of data on the use of land until the year 1990.

Compared with 1985, the total area of agricultural land is stable and has increased only a little - 0.74 percent - but the increase rate is variable in different areas, especially in the areas planting yearly plants and perennial plants.

In 44 provinces and cities, 32 have decreased and 12 have increased the amount of agricultural land at different levels.

The increased areas are the Middle Highlands in the north, the Central Highlands, and the Mekong River Delta. The Central Highlands is the area with the highest percentage of land increase—more than 18 percent—especially in the areas of coffee planting and rubber trees. The two provinces of Minh Hai and Long An have satisfactorily exploited the Ca Mau Peninsula and the Plain of Reeds; as a result, they have rapidly increased the amount of land under cultivation.

Three areas that have decreased the amount of agricultural land are: the plains area in the north at one percent, the old Region Four at six percent, and the coastal area of the Central at more than one percent.

In the last five years, with a new agricultural policy aimed at encouraging all the economic sectors to invest money to open virgin land, more than 240,000 hectares of perennial plants and 100,000 hectares of land for fish breeding have been increased, contributing greatly to the stabilization and increase of agricultural land in the whole nation.

In the past, although the land law already existed, local governments did not administer the land properly. They have given land without authorization and to the wrong people, and have used agricultural land for other tasks at will. Thus, land for planting rice, vegetables, and short-term industrial crops has decreased significantly.

Cost of Natural Disasters in Ha Nam Ninh Reported

BK1307141191 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] According to initial calculations, in last spring's fifth-month rice crop, natural disasters caused almost 270 billion dong in damage to nearly 200 tones of paddy in Ha Nam Ninh. This reduces the income of agricultural contractors by about 45 percent.

Because of this, besides motivating peasants to plant an extra 18,000 hectares of 10-month rice crop to make the next winter rice crop equal or exceed the previous record, Ha Nam Ninh has applied many practical measures to help peasants in increasing production and stabilizing life, at first with the production of the summer-spring rice crop, 10-month rice crop, and the winter rice crop.

The districts and cooperatives are also assessing cases to provide financial and material assistance to needy households.

The Ha Nam Ninh banking sector is also planning to give more loans for production to households.

Nationwide Malaria 'Epidemic' Spreading

BK1407130991 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 9 Jul 91

[Text] The Malaria Abolition Program, which has operated for more than 20 years in our country, has significantly contributed to the protection of the people's health and has served production in a practical way.

But since 1980, due to socioeconomical changes, there have been dozens of thousands of people moving from the north to the Central Highlands and the plains areas in the south to make a living. The people move for the gold and precious stone digging in some mountainous areas. They are increasing every day, causing the malaria problem to become more serious.

Health services in villages have been degraded, and funds for the antimalaria and malaria prevention program are limited. Thus, in many areas in the north, especially in the mountainous areas—Hoang Lien Son, Nghe Tinh, and so forth—malaria has returned. In these provinces, the numbers of malaria parasites are increasing. The malaria epidemic is spreading. According to initial statistics, in the first five months of this year, there were 228,659 people infected with malaria nationwide. Both the rate of people infected with acute malaria and the mortality rate are high.

In this situation, the Institute of Malaria Parasites and Insects has provided medicines at an opportune time, met demands from local hospitals, and given professional assistance to antimalaria and malaria prevention programs for ethnic minorities, the poor, and people in the new economic zones. At the present time, in the Provinces of Nghe Tinh and Thanh Hoa, the antimalaria and malaria prevention work has public support. The Thanh Hoa People's Committee has quickly put aside necessary funds for this work. Lang Son Province has organized sanitary and epidemic prevention activities, quickly finding and treating people infected with malaria to stop the spread of the epidemic.

Satellite Station Role in Telecom Network Lauded

BK1207105991 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 2 Jul 91

[Text] The Lotus Earth Satellite Station is the first earth satellite station in our country, constructed with the assistance of the USSR in 1980. In the last 10 years, cadres and technical staff of the station have overcome difficulties in terms of equipment and weather to satisfactorily guarantee efficient communication, including national and international telecommunications and broadcasting.

The Lotus Earth Satellite Station is highly valued by the state and the people for its active service to the cause of socioeconomic development in the whole country, especially to the mountainous and island areas.

To implement Decision 26 issued on 30 January 1991 by the chairman of the Council of Ministers, from 4 February 1991 the station has regularly broadcast programs of the Vietnam television station to any locality in the country via satellite.

Especially recently, station cadres and staff urgently overcame every technical difficulty to absolutely guarantee transmission quality so the people and soldiers could follow the proceedings of the seventh national party congress via programs of the Vietnam television station.

Microwave Antenna Project Completed in Khanh Hoa

BK1207105091 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 4 Jul 91

[Text] After a period of intensive construction and installation, the Vietnam General Postal and Telecommunications Corporation, the Post and Telegraph Service of

Khanh Hoa Province, and the Hanoi Machine Installation Enterprise of the Union of Machine Installation Enterprises of the Ministry of Construction recently tested and handed over the Nhatrang microwave antenna project to the Khanh Hoa Post and Telegraphic Service.

The project was started to implement the telecommunications sector's policy of modernizing its information and liaison network and in response to domestic telecommunications requirements. The Hanoi Machine Installation Enterprise was responsible for construction and installation work, while Enterprise 96 of the Ministry of National Defense was in charge of building the mechanical equipment.

At 101 meters high, the Nhatrang project antenna is one of the country's four highest microwave antennas. In the period ahead, six other microwave antennas of different heights will be erected in Khanh Hoa Province, depending on the topography of each area. The completion of this antenna system, a link in the north-south microwave communications line, will mark a new step in development of Khanh Hoa's Post and Telegraph Service in both scale and quality.

Fiji

Further on Rabuka's Resignation From Military

BK1507072091 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] The commander of the Fiji military forces, Major General Sitiveni Rabuka, has announced he is relinquishing his command from midnight tonight so that he can take up an appointment with the government.

General Rabuka told a parade of about 800 soldiers at military headquarters in Suva that the new commander would be Brigadier General Epeli Ganilau, the son of Fiji's president Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau. Gen. Ganilau is married to the eldest daughter of the prime minister, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara.

In his farewell speech, Gen. Rabuka, who led the two military coups which overthrew Fiji's Government in 1987, said he was very proud of what the Army had achieved. He said the military's responsibilities were still there and that he would retain close links with the Army but he did not elaborate. Gen. Rabuka added that it was to be hoped that those who were appointed leaders and commanders would have the interests of Fiji at heart.

A Radio Australia correspondent in Suva says the announcement that Gen. Ganilau would take over as commander was a surprise. Our correspondent says it had been expected that the second in command, Brig. Gen. George Konrote would succeed Gen. Rabuka. Gen. Ganilau is the third in the military hierarchy and has been head of the Army's Political Division.

Unions Accused of Breaking Army Agreement

BK1507074391 Hong Kong AFP in English 0729 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Suva, July 15 (AFP)—Fiji's Government on Monday claimed that trade unions had broken their part in the army- initiated accord struck with President Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau last week.

Information Minister Ratu Inoke Kubuabola claimed the Fiji Trades Union Congress (FTUC) and National Farmers Union (NFU) had agreed to lift the harvest boycott immediately and that both sides would then discuss outstanding issues.

"The NFU and the FTUC have reneged on the pact they agreed to with the president," he said.

"They are now distorting and twisting the terms of the agreement and refusing to immediately call for an end to the harvest boycott," he said in a three-page statement.

The presidential statement on Friday however had said the unions were to "immediately make preparations for the harvest boycott to be lifted" while the government would convene an industry conference.

A spokesman for the FTUC said in an interview that the minister "did not seem to understand what he's talking about."

He said a full response would be issued after the FTUC studied the minister's statement in full.

Union officials have said they would attend government-organised talks on Wednesday and were willing to lift the harvest boycott imposed on May 28.

They said the conference was expected to address the share of farmers' proceeds, stalling of local growers' council elections, sharp rises in fertiliser prices and recognition of the National Farmers Union; all grievances that inspired the boycott.

Ratu Inoke warned that the unionists "must now bear the full consequences for their actions.

"The position of the FTUC-NFU leadership seems to be changing by the day. How can such people ever be trusted?"

He said the unionists were "desperate men when they saw major general (Sitiveni) Rabuka" who oversaw the accord.

Ratu Inoke claimed the FTUC had opted to call off a planned national strike because public opinion was against them.

"The unions were dividing," he said. "The harvest boycott was breaking. They were faced with the prospects of a failed national strike and a collapse of the boycott. They wanted someone to bail them out."

French Official Remarks on Ending Nuclear Tests

BK1207133591 Hong Kong AFP in English 0926 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Suva, July 12 (AFP)—France would stop nuclear testing in the Pacific if other powers followed its lead or it received proof of ecological damage, a French official said here Friday.

Jacques la Blanc, France's permanent secretary to the South Pacific, promised renewed efforts by Paris to bolster ties with Fiji and other South Pacific forum nations.

"There is a great need to study our policies in the region, especially in view of the many critiques we've had," he said.

Mr. la Blanc also defended France's decision to grant a knighthood to Rainbow Warrior bomber Alain Mafart, which has sparked anger especially in New Zealand.

"There is absolutely no connection between this award and the Rainbow Warrior. I accept that it was probably coincidental," he said.

Mr. la Blanc, who will lead a delegation to the South Pacific forum later this month, said the French colonies felt neglected in the Pacific.

"Since we're now considering giving our people more autonomy and leave it up to them to choose their own future, I think the best thing is to make them in contact with the region.

"We don't want our territories to be just part of France but also part of the Pacific."

He said the pro and anti-independence groups in New Caledonia would come to some understanding before a referendum in 1998 to decide whether the terrority became independent.pl

"The situation would be very shaky if it was a 50-50 split," Mr. la Blanc said.

He denied France was using chequebook diplomacy to buy friends in the Pacific, saying increased aid was to meet demand.

"We've a new approach to the Pacific and we find that the governments are accepting us. With Fiji, our relations were very, very bad but now things are so much better."

Mr. la Blanc urged island governments and the South Pacific forum to abandon opposition to France's nuclear testing.

"So far no one has been able to prove that our testing is spoiling the environment," he said.

But Paris would halt its Pacific programme if "there is any danger from it. If everyone stops, no problem, so will we. But I don't see why France should be the only one to stop. It's a question of national defence for us."

French Polynesia

Gaston Flosse Gives Up Role 'Temporarily'

BK1307090091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0817 GMT 13 Jul 91

[Text] Papeete, July 12 (AFP)—The head of the Council of Ministers of French Polynesia said Friday that he had decided to give up his role temporarily to allow time to consider the territory's problems after it was rocked by violence this week.

Gaston Flosse, who arrived from Paris early Friday, told a press conference that he had decided to step aside to allow time for "necessary reflection" following clashes Wednesday between striking workers and police that left about 10 people injured.

Joel Buillard, the vice president of the territory, is to take over from Mr. Flosse.

Under the French territory's rules, if the president steps aside for more than three months the government is obliged to resign.

New Zealand

Scientists Record French Nuclear Test

BK1507044691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0401 GMT 15 Jul 91

[Text] Wellington, July 15 (AFP)—New Zealand scientists said Monday that a French nuclear test recorded earlier this month was the equivalent of only 500 tonnes of TNT, the smallest they have ever detected.

Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) Chief Seismologist Warwick Smith said the test on Mururoa atoll in French Polynesia took place on July 5 at 6 A.M. New Zealand Time (1800 GMT July 4).

It had been announced at the time by French authorities who said it had a yield of less than 10 kilotons.

The test was picked up on equipment in Rarotonga, Cook Islands, which was partly bought with compensation paid to New Zealand by France in settlement for sinking the Greenpeace protest ship Rainbow Warrior in Auckland harbour in 1985.

Mr. Smith said the DSIR had had to wait until magnetic tapes were flown here from Rarotonga before seeing if they had picked up the blast. "It was so small it was right on the threshold of being detectable," he said.

Second French Award Causes 'Another Upset'

BK1407053091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0506 GMT 14 Jul 91

[Text] Wellington, July 14 (AFP)—A report that an award has been given to a colonel who held high position in the French secret service at the time of the Rainbow Warrior bombing has caused another upset in relations between France and New Zealand.

Radio New Zealand reported Colonel Jean-Claude Lesquer had been made a commander of the Legion of Honour, saying he was head of the action branch of the French secret service when the Greenpeace ship was sunk by saboteurs in Auckland harbour six years ago.

Two weeks ago one of the bombers, Alain Mafart, was given a long- service award. The news drew a strong protest from Wellington and a few days later France exploded another nuclear device at Mururoa Atoll in the Pacific.

New Zealand and other regional governments oppose the test programme.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Don McKinnon said Sunday the government was waiting for confirmation from its Paris embassy of the radio report about the decoration of Col. Lesquer.

"If it is correct then of course I'm irritated," Mr. McKinnon said.

"It's a case of more bad timing and more insensitivity. I'm left wondering how much longer this sorry saga in New Zealand-France relations is going to continue eating away at the positive links between our two countries.

"Like any New Zealander, I'm upset that the Rainbow Warrior affair continues to haunt us like this."

The radio report noted that Col. Lesquer had been second in command of French land forces during the gulf war and it was not clear whether the award related directly to that.

Mr. McKinnon said he would not begrudge anyone a medal for playing a part in the multinational Gulf forces but added: "No-one should be rewarded for being associated with an act of international terrorism."

Wellington reacted to the award given to Mr. Mafart by downgrading its representation at a French national day reception to be hosted in Wellington Sunday by Ambassador Gabriel de Bellescize.

Neither Prime Minister Jim Bolger nor Mr. McKinnon will attend and the government will be represented by Revenue Minister Wyatt Creech, the lowest-ranking member of the cabinet.

Mr. Creech said when he was chosen to attend the reception that the decision had been made because of his cabinet ranking.

"The government is not impressed with what the French have done," he said.

Mr. De Bellescize is expected to defend the Mafart award when he speaks at the reception.

Anti-nuclear groups have said they plan to picket the Park Royal Hotel where the reception is to be held.